The Middlebury Campus

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College hires new dining director

Ex-Dartmouth director plans to foster student involvement

By Adi Raval
Associate Editor

Coming to Middlebury with a promise for increased student involvement in dining issues, Peter J. Napolitano has been hired as the new head of dining services. The former head of dining at Dartmouth, Napolitano replaces Ted A. Mayer, who accepted a similar position at Harvard University earlier this year.

Although Napolitano, who just started the job Monday, is unaware of some of the current issues involving Middining, such as the long lines outside the entrance to Proctor or of the planned decentralization of dining as outlined in President McCardell's opening year address, he says that "I'm big on meeting with the students...I may not be able to meet all of the students' concerns, but I will be aware of them."

At Dartmouth, after realizing there was not much student representation in dining matters, Napolitano set up director's roundtable dinners during which students conveyed problems directly to him; he is considering doing the same at Middlebury.

As an example of Napolitano's responsiveness to student concerns, he gave two African-Americans the approval to stock the Dartmouth convenience store that lay under the auspices of dining services with skin-products specially designed for those with dark skin.

Along the same lines, here at Middlebury, the director hopes to maintain a closer relationship with faculty and staff, who often use dining services for catering purposes.

Napolitano has a mixed review of the dining points system used at Dartmouth and several other colleges. The system allows students to purchase a certain number of points, which are deducted based on the quantity of food ordered and, in some cases such as salads, by weight as well. Napolitano has worked under both the points system and the all-you-can-eat system available at Middlebury.

The points system, the director believes, can have serious effects upon the nutritional diet of students. "At Dartmouth," the director says, "students are charged with fees everywhere they go, whether that be at an athletic event or an arts event. The one single area where students could have a direct control over how much they spend at Dartmouth College was in food. What happened was that it became very dangerous because students were cutting down their nutritional food intake. So instead of spending the $12-15 to get the 2,800 calories a day, they were spending $6-7 a day and not receiving the sufficient number of calories."

Yet Napolitano also concurs with a number of students that the current plan at Middlebury is inflexible. Despite its faults, for the foreseeable future, the college will

(see Dining, page 6)

Stuart Bratesman of Dartmouth College

Peter Napolitano, on left, joined Middlebury as the new dining director.

Conference marks Midd Moscow's 20th birthday

By Megan Sowards
News Editor

Middlebury College will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its Russian school in Moscow during a two-day conference held this weekend in the Russian capital. The conference, presented by the Geonomics Institute, is timed to coincide with Moscow's 850th birthday celebration during the month of September.

Organizers expect to draw such notable speakers as Yuri Luzhkov, mayor of the city of Moscow, and US Ambassador James F. Collins. President John McCardell, Professor of History, James West and Geonomics President Kathryn Wittneben are also slated to speak at the conference.

"Middlebury is a major player in the new Russia," said McCardell. "It speaks highly of Geonomics and of Middlebury that we are able to draw to the conference people like the American ambassador to Russia and the mayor of Moscow who think Middlebury is worth their time."

During the first day of the event, members of the political, business and academic communities will examine "Moscow in the New Millennium." Discussions regarding US business involvement in Moscow will focus on the city's position as a growing center for investment and employment. CNN Moscow Bureau Chief and Correspondent Jill Dougherty will deliver a speech on Moscow and the media, while Richard Brody, a senior policy analyst for the US Department of Commerce, will moderate a discussion of the growth of entreprenueurialism in Moscow.

In keeping with these themes, Saturday's events will include career workshops for alumni of the American Collegiate Consortium, a Middlebury-founded program. More than 150 alumni of the ACC will have the opportunity to discuss career opportunities with prospective employers from Russian and American corporations. Students currently studying at Midd Moscow and Middlebury College alumni in the

(see Midd Moscow, page 6)

Pipe burst causes town water shortage

By Sherry Schwarz
News Editor

Usually Middlebury has too much water, but yesterday it didn't have enough that least not in its public reservoir. Early on Tuesday morning officials from the Middlebury Public Works Department discovered that the town's reservoir, located on Chipman Hill, had drained over night to "a little less than a foot," according to Director of Public Works Bill Hageman. The reservoir, which services the college and the town of Middlebury, has recently been under construction to extend its Industrial Park water line.

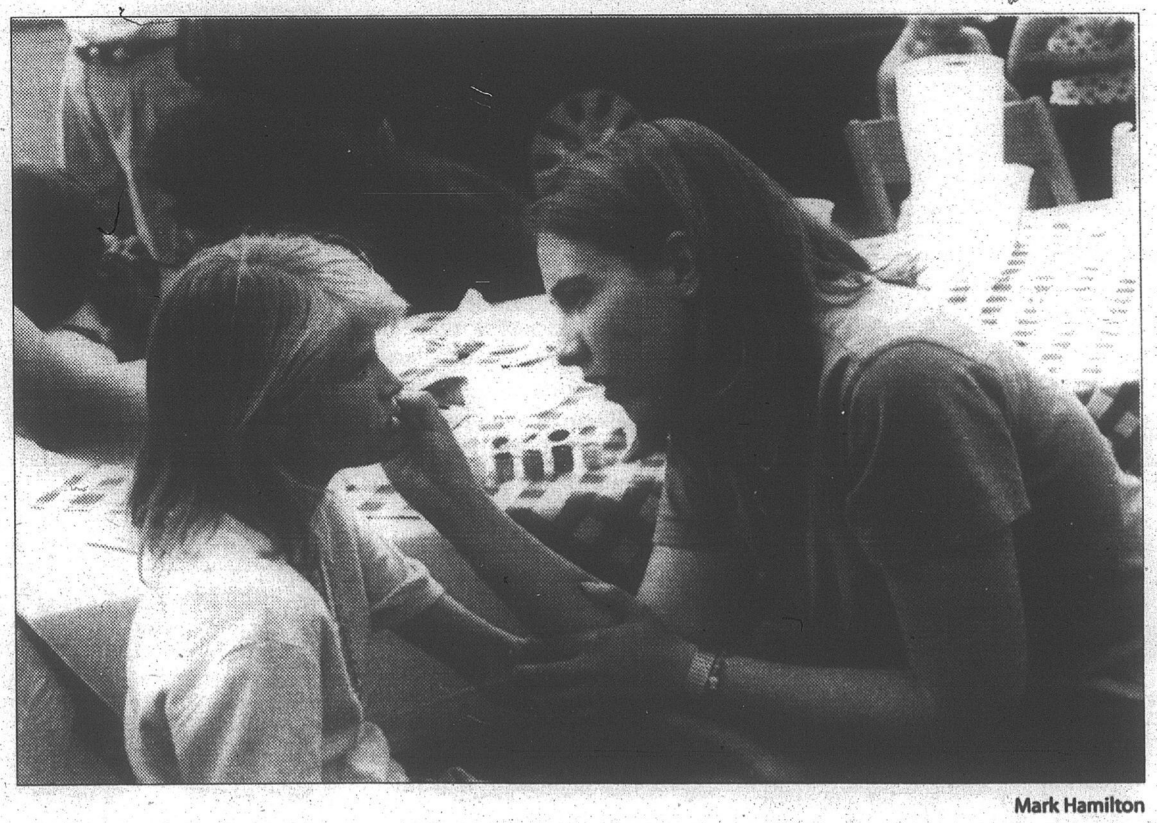
Ordinarily, at night, the private contractors working on the job secure the line under construction with a "thrust block." On Monday night, however, workers neglected to put the thrust block on the line, causing it to burst.

An estimated 2 million gallons of water were lost, reducing the town and college's water supply significantly enough that conservation ordinances had to be put into effect around 4 a.m..

The Public Works Department made a radio announcement asking people to conserve water; college staff sent e-mail out to the entire student body in addition to posting notices in the majority of buildings on campus. "We had to rearrange people's day's work when we first became involved," said Assistant Director for Engineering and Utilities Arthur Thorne. "The security department, night watchmen, custodial staff, and facilities people did a great job of getting right on [the situation]."

Thorne and other college staff members were responsible for overseeing certain "shut down procedures" that must occur during emergency situations. Various refrigeration systems had to be turned off, minor repairs were required on internal plumbing systems, and fire systems had to be monitored carefully. College staff

(see Reservoir, page 3)



Mark Hamilton

Torri Ross '98 paints her Community Friend's face at the Septemberfest held outside of Proctor on Friday night.

Inside...

Media coverage of Princess Diana's death comes under fire p. 7

In Depth

Swimming connoisseur directs enthusiasts to finest local spots p. 18

Sports

Women's soccer pummels top- ranked Bates p. 24

Index

Opinions 6
Features 11
Arts 15
In Depth 19
Sports 24

The Campus is printed on recycled paper. It is also recyclable.

College Shorts

By Josh Irwin
Managing Editor

Former mascots disrupted by stadium expansion

A $36-million dollar expansion of Kyle Field at football-crazed Texas A&M appealed to the university community at first–until students and alumni realized the project would force a relocation of the graves of the school's collie mascot. Four collies, all named Reveille, are buried by the stadium's north tunnel and enjoy a view of the scoreboard.

Texas A&M administrators have promised the dogs will receive a "pretty spectacular" new gravesite. The university is even considering an electronic scoreboard mounted outside the stadium to allow the collies to follow the game.

Fears of medical exam cheating allayed

In the wake of a suspected cheating scandal, the test scores of more than 20,000 medical students were withheld last month by the National Board of Medical Examiners. The board originally believed a large contingent of students had seen the test before taking it. Ultimately, the scam involved "a relatively small number of students," an official said. Still, the board's president, Thompson Bowles expressed lingering concern over the incident.

The delay proved a large inconvenience for thousands of students who required a passing grade to enter their third year of medical school.

Che fever spurs motorcycle odyssey

Caught up in a recent craze over Cuban revolutionary Ernesto (Che) Guevara, a professor at Nova Southeastern University and her companion have launched a motorcycle journey to retrace the steps of the famous leader.

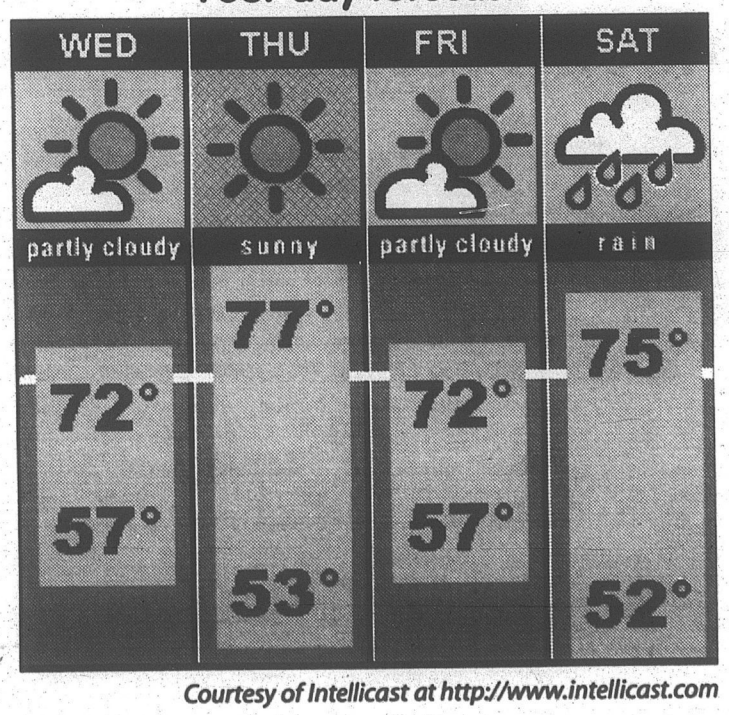
In 1952 Guevara left medical school in Argentina, and traveled through South America while he recorded his experiences on the road in a series of diaries. He was executed by Bolivian troops in the 1960s.

"It was a journey of discovery and self-discovery for him," said Nova's Barbara Brodman. "It will be a journey of self-discovery for us too–and a great adventure.

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Campus Weather

Four day forecast



Courtesy of Intellicast at http://www.intellicast.com

Trustees give commons plan go-ahead

Board votes unanimously to pursue McCardell's proposal

By Carri Smith
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College board of trustees voted unanimously during its annual retreat last week to support President McCardell's vision of an enhanced residential commons system.

The trustee resolution, distributed to the college on Monday, noted that "an extraordinary conferral of responsibility" has been placed upon the Middlebury community.

Trustee's recommendations

Specifically, the trustees resolved that "student life should be one of Middlebury College's peaks of excellence," as defined by a continuing commons system, decentralized dining, and proximate faculty residences. The trustees also agreed that the college should immediately begin to design and implement this revised system for a final presentation to the board no later than its May 1998 meeting. The presentation will include a ten-year campus facilities plan costing approximately $210 million and the detailed physical requirements of the proposed residential system."

McCardell was surprised and encouraged by the vote of the trustees. Their resolutions, he said, essentially gave control of the process to the college community.

SGA and faculty present commons plan philosophy

Before the vote, the trustees met with various members of the college community including the Faculty Council and the Executive Committee of the SGA. Kathy Ebner, director of residential life, and Tim Spears, co-chair of the residential life committee, presented a speech entitled "Learning and Living" to discuss the general themes of the commons proposal.

Nate Johnson '98, secretary of organizations, encouraged the trustees to solicit student input and feelings toward the proposal. "It is really crucial that we get student involvement in the process," said Johnson.

The participants then met in various "breakout groups" and presented their desires for the proposal to the group. Among the topics discussed were flexibility options, the role of residential life at Middlebury, the faculty's role in the system and the state of the current residential system.

Although SGA president Byran Stratton '98 did not make a formal presentation to the trustees, he said that the most valuable part of the retreat was "talking to the trustees." Stratton felt the trustees were extremely open to student points of view and attentive to student presentations and comments. "Everyone had an equal voice," he said.

Currently, the college has not consulted an architect to determine whether Middlebury can sustain such a proposal. The costs and benefits have also not been weighed. However, during the coming year, Executive Vice President Ron Liebowitz will be a central figure in formulating the specifics of the plan. Noting that Middlebury is at a crossroads in its facilities planning, Liebowitz hopes to develop Middlebury's academic and social life in such a way that they will strengthen each other. Presently, he believes that the two have developed in different directions. According to Liebowitz, McCardell's proposal would be a more "holistic approach to education."

Plan to be solidified by May

Before the May presentation three crucial steps must be taken to formulate the ten-year plan, said Liebowitz. The first will be to educate the college community, which "will hopefully bring everyone up to the same understanding."

The architects of the plan will hold a series of meetings with students, faculty and staff to gather further input. Liebowitz also intends to devote the October faculty meeting to a discussion of the system, but wants to wait until March to put the final proposal to a faculty vote.

The final step will be meetings with various campus groups in order to draft ideas and, ultimately, formulate clear objectives. Liebowitz anticipates these steps will be in place by March and expressed an interest in attracting student input and participation.

Middlebury ranks #8 in annual magazine review

By Stefanie Koperniak
Staff Writer

College-bound high school seniors face a wide array of informational books and magazines when it comes time to investigate their options in higher education. Among the most prominent of these publications is *U.S. News & World Report*, which prints annual rankings of American colleges and universities. This year *U.S. News* ranked Middlebury eighth among 25 top national liberal arts colleges.

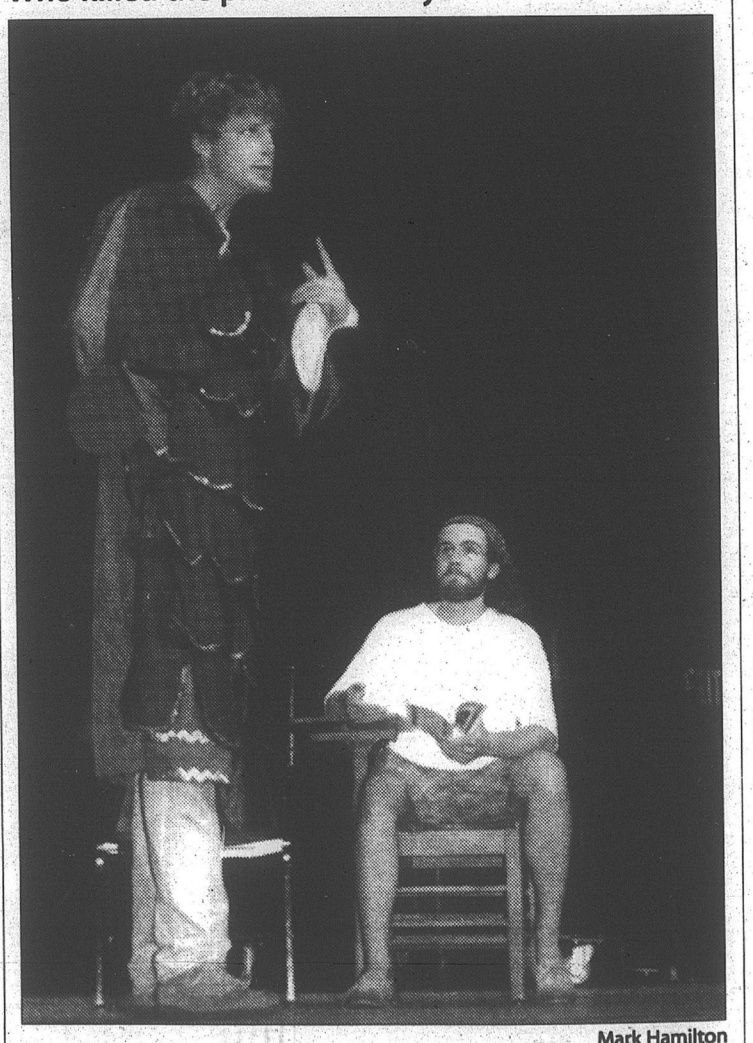
The magazine compiles information about the schools in a variety of areas including academic reputation, graduation rate, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving rate. The information is then used to rate the school in a comparative order.

While these annual rankings are significant because *U.S. News* is a popular and respected college authority, it must also be acknowledged that there is much more to the process than simply assigning a number. Director of Admissions John Hanson described the rankings as a primarily well-intentioned system "seeking to provide information for students researching college choices" which, because of its compact list format, could also serve as a "quick fix," and provide only "simplistic" information if not examined carefully.

In an attempt to improve the accuracy of its rankings *U.S. News* has altered some of its traditional computations. One rather significant change the magazine has made is that this year scores are

(see ranks, page 5)

Who killed the phonemail lady?



Mark Hamilton

Otter Nonsense player Tyson Lien '98 *defends his client against murder charges in one of the comical skits performed on Sunday night.*

Geonomics Institute forms a partnership with college

By Kristine Palmero
Staff Writer

The Geonomics Institute, on July 1, 1997, announced its formal joining with Middlebury College. This new partnership has expanded the working relationship which has existed between the college and Geonomics, a previously independent institute. Geonomics has also made available its state-of-the-art facilities to Middlebury faculty and staff.

In its ten-year history, Geonomics has worked closely with faculty and students as well as international business and policy leaders to further global understanding between the United States and developing democracies. This understanding is facilitated by forming partnerships that offer real-world economic, political, and social experiences. A federal grant from the U.S. Information Agency underwrites the institute's work.

The Geonomics library, which doubles as a lecture hall and a classroom, currently hosts political science, economics, physics and English courses. The International Students Organization Professors of political science, anthropology, economics, and Spanish have offices in the building professors, as well as the International Students Organization also have offices in the building.

The new arrangement between the institute and the college is designed to strengthen Middlebury's traditionally strong background in foreign languages and international affairs and give weight to the international studies major.

"Geonomics fosters an excellent environment for collegial and intellectual discussion because it is a place for the faculty [from] a mix of different disciplines," said Miguel Fernández, visiting instructor of Spanish, whose office is located in the Geonomics house.

Internship opportunities emphasizing real-world experience in the field of international relations have now been expanded for Middlebury students as well.

"Student interns have been working with the Geonomics staff...which gives them an opportunity to work with staff in non-academic and academic sectors so that they can be placed in internships while they are abroad," said Fernández. "[These internships allow] them to broaden their field of study."

These internships, organized by Chris Beattie though the Community Program, allow students to gain valuable experience working on special projects. "Typically, the Geonomics has three interns," said Beattie." This year there are four."

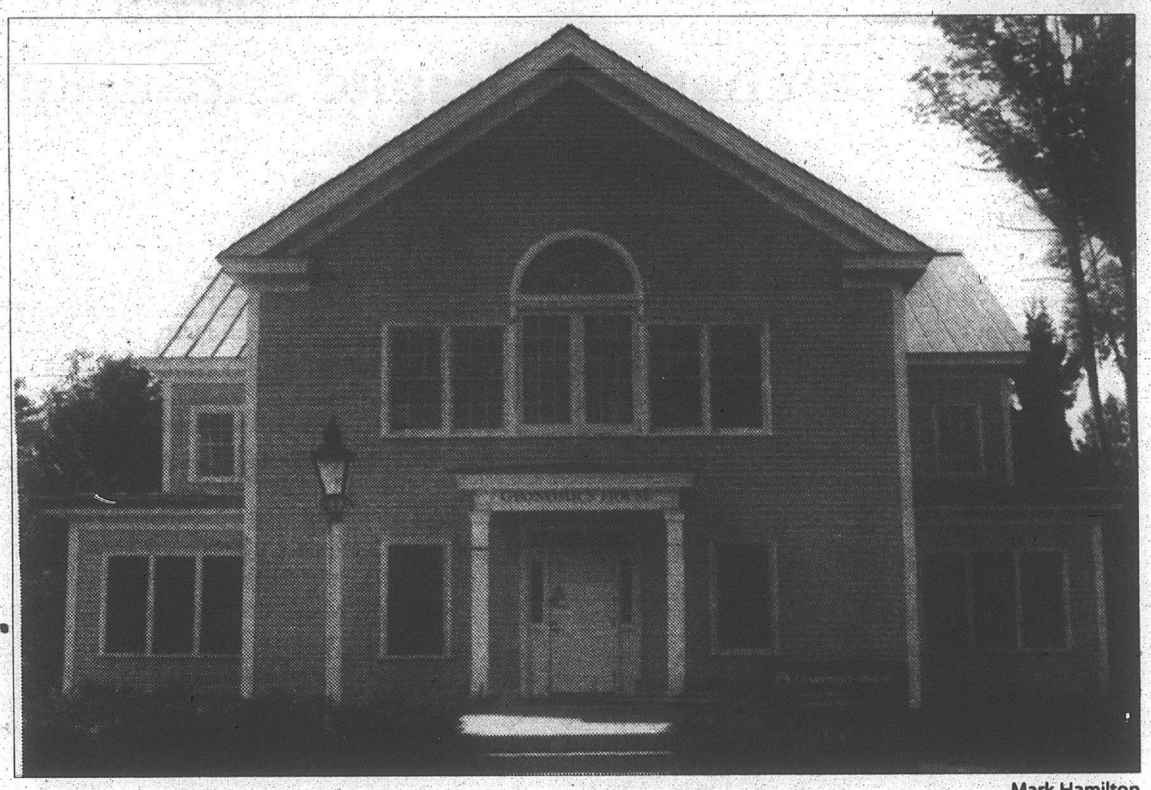
Intern duties include interpreting and translating documents from English to Russian and from Russian to English. Geonomics is a valuable resource to Middlebury students, especially those interested in international affairs and international economics, Beattie added.

Students have had direct exposure to highly-placed Russian officials both informally, through classes such as an economics course discussing the idiosyncrasies of the Russian tax system and formally, through the Russian Round Table.

Along with projects focused on the college, the institute will continue to pursue a relationship with other organizations abroad. Supported by outside grants, these efforts range from business development forums and training programs, to research publication. The institute also regularly offers seminars and executive retreats at the college's Bread Loaf Campus.

As of press time, several members of the Geonomics Institute, including President Kathryn Wittneben, are in Moscow where the Geonomics Institute will be hosting a business and career forum at Moscow's Olympic Penta Renaissance Hotel.

For the last decade, Geonomics has played a crucial role in bringing together entrepreneurs and political leaders from Russia with American partners through its programs.



Mark Hamilton

The spacious interior of the Geonomics House provides Middlebury with ample office and classroom space.

McCardell fields student questions

By Megan Mabee
Staff Writer

At Tuesday night's open meeting on the proposed changes to the commons and residential life systems, President John McCardell once again outlined his vision for a system of continuing commons which he hopes will foster a greater sense of community among students, faculty and staff. McCardell estimated that if undertaken, most of these changes would be either done or underway in five to six years and would cost approximately $30,000,000.

McCardell prefaced the discussion by commenting that the college finds itself at a "magical moment" in its history because it is designing and implementing the definition of what the college will be over the next 100 years. It is his hope that Middlebury will become a student-centered institution in which "education takes place in every human encounter that one has in the course of the day." He stressed the fact that the proposed changes are being considered at a time when the college has never been stronger or closer to perfection. However, he asserts his proposal will allow the college to become "truer to itself."

McCardell devoted the majority of the meeting however to answering a variety of questions from an audience that included more than 100 students and members of the faculty and staff.

McCardell supported a decentralized dining system that would allow students to linger over their food and to "engage in the kinds of conversations that...contribute a significant amount to one's education." Students would not be limited to where they eat, but rather, would be able to enjoy an atmosphere that is more conducive to discussion and not one in which students "bolt" their food so as to leave as quickly as possible.

He drew an analogy between living in the new commons system to living in a neighborhood to elucidate the benefits of staying in the same commons during one's years at Middlebury. Remaining in the same common would build unity between students by creating the close, intimate nature of a community, he said. This close-knit group would be balanced out by the people students meet outside of their common through various activities and sports, and by a student center that would serve as a "downtown" to draw the student body together as a whole. "It makes all the sense in the world," said McCardell. "It's the way society has organized itself for centuries."

McCardell stressed the fact that the proposed changes are being considered at a time when the college has never been stronger or closer to perfection.

McCardell reassured students that renovations to existing dorms would improve the overall quality of housing and equalize the disparity between dorms so that students would be content to remain in the same common. In addition, faculty residences that will be proximate to the dorms will ensure that faculty members will be more thoroughly integrated into their respective common.

McCardell would like to see the restructured commons foster an

(see McCardell, page 6)

Reservoir's water restored

(continued from page 1)

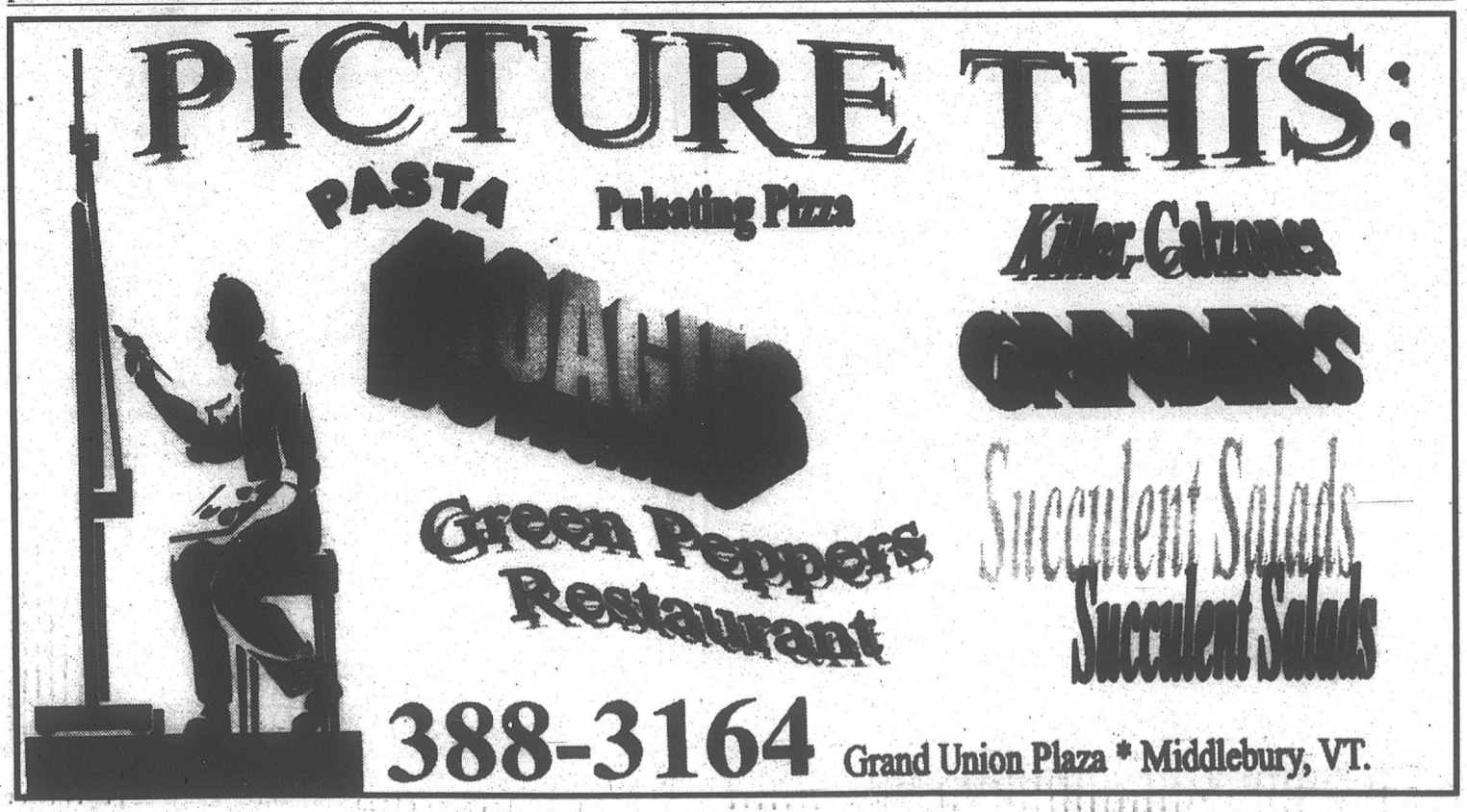
also delayed the opening of the swimming pool in order to eliminate shower usage.

Dining Services was quick to cooperate with the town's request to conserve water as well. During meals, students were provided with disposable dishware, such as paper cups, wherever possible.

As a result of the community's expediency in reducing its water consumption, "there was less demand on the system today than on normal days...when approximately 1 million to 1 1/2 million gallons are used," said Hagemen. These efforts enabled the first foot of water to be recovered relatively quickly, thereby meeting the town's fire safety regulations by about 9 a.m..

The pump station at Palmer Spring worked all day to channel water into the reservoir. Water levels normally rise roughly one foot every three hours, and Hageman expected this process to accelerate after the dinner hour, when demand on the water supply routinely drops.

The Public Works Department, as of early last night, was optimistic that the reservoir would reach its full depth of 16 feet by morning and that conservation alerts would be suspended well before then.



Faculty unchanged despite expansion

By Lela Moore
Associate Editor

As Middlebury College faces the specter of expansion, the hiring of new faculty naturally becomes a major issue. Will the faculty expand as the student body does to maintain the community atmosphere of discussion-oriented small classes for which the college is known? Or, will new faculty soon be hired for their ability to lecture to larger groups? Will classes be led by teaching assistants?

Dean of Faculty Robert Schine bristles at the idea that the basic teaching philosophy at Middlebury will be altered by the proposed expansion.

News Analysis

"The faculty here is committed to teaching in a undergrad context," he said. "They are hired because they have proven potential in a liberal arts context, or because they show potential to thrive in this environment." Schine explained that new faculty are hired in stages, resulting in a gradual expansion even as visiting professors come and go.

Middlebury hired 40 new faculty members for the 1997-1998 academic year. Among them are three professors, 18 assistant professors, seven instructors, two lecturers, six assistants in instruction, an artist-in-residence, a Director of Environmental Affairs and Planning and a Dean of Languages and International Studies. Some are visiting and will stay only a year; others are on the tenure track. Some are fresh out of graduate school; others have years of teaching experience.

Despite their differences, however, all are new to Middlebury. Recognizing that new faculty members face many of the same difficulties acclimating to the campus and the liberal-arts emphasis at the college as new students do, Middlebury offers several services to its employees to facilitate this adjustment. Schine and Assistant Dean of Faculty Bethany Ladimore led an orientation at the beginning of the year which covered such diverse topics as using the library to balancing instruction and scholarship. The orientation also included a campus tour. Schine noted that most new faculty members found the orientation "very helpful."

"It is a good way of transmitting new information," he said.

Schine complimented what he sees as "informal mentoring" that takes place in every department between new and more experienced faculty members. "[Mentoring] institutes a culture that encourages people to do their best work. This ethos influences the faculty which in turn influences the student culture. Students must feel that faculty encourage them to do their best, but faculty must feel that the college is drawing out their best. The college must reinforce and challenge."

A page on the Middlebury website directed at new faculty includes information on housing, computers and links to sites on points of interest in Vermont. The page, found at the URL www.middlebury.edu/~newfac/, also contains links to the Middlebury library caalog, the handbook and course catalog.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Allison Stanger will lead an optional workshop during winter term entitled "Teaching at a Liberal Arts College: A Workshop for New Faculty." Stanger attended the workshop herself as a new faculty member when it was taught by Professor of History of Art and Architecture Kirsten Powell. The discussion-based workshop will include various faculty members speaking on a range of subjects dealing with the teaching process at Middlebury. "The workshop deals with liberal education and why it is important," said Stanger. "It's a way to meet people and helps integrate new faculty."

Of the notion that expansion means larger, more lecture-oriented courses, Schine said, "There is nothing to it. The majority of classes here are small. In the course of the proposed expansion, the student-faculty ratio will remain constant."

Aware of Middlebury's plans to expand, Professor of Economics Douglas Davis, who is on leave from Virginia Commonwealth University, a large institution in Richmond, Virginia, has found that Middlebury "offers a diverse curriculum" in his department. Davis, who teaches both introductory-level lecture courses and more advanced discussion-oriented courses, said of the economics curriculum, "it's a very good undergraduate program. It's good preparation for either the business world or for graduate work in economics, both of which are very different from the undergraduate [liberal arts] experience."

It is generally acknowledged that a low student-faculty ration is necessary to maintain the feeling of community on the Middlebury campus. Many students have

(see <headline>, page <None>)

Ridgeline construction under way

Name

Construction worker Merril Badger *helps to build the foundation of one of Middlebury's new social houses.*

Activities fair encourages participation

By Matt Potenza
Staff Writer

On Monday, McCullough housed the annual student activities fair. Hundreds of students browsed the dozens of displays, advertising clubs and organizations with diverse interests ranging from athletic and musical to political and religious.

The aim of the bi-annual fair is to provide an easy way for students to become active on campus by introducing them to the various clubs. Some organizations, such as Interfaith, are relatively new to Middlebury, so the fair is a good opportunity for the organization to express what its members do in the club. "We are trying to get the message out that Interfaith is a place where people come to share their faith without having to defend it and themselves," said Leila Menard '98, a representative of Interfaith. "This fair helps us do that."

The aim of the bi-annual fair is to provide an easy way for students to become active on campus by introducing them to the various clubs.

Other organizations feel that the fair is less successful in conveying the clubs' messages to students. "It's hard to engage in a conversation with someone who is interested," said Nicole Lanthier '99, chair of the Coalition for Feminist Consciousness. The large crowd and the noise cause students to walk by without really knowing what a club is all about, she explained.

Lauren Stewart '98, representing the College Democrats Club, said, "Our club is a little different. We get more people to come to meetings when there is an election year or a big scandal or when something interesting happens." She felt that the list of names that the club gets from the fair is a great way to keep interested students informed of events and meeting times. Although a much smaller percentage of students comes to the meetings regularly than signs the list at the fair, it is helpful for a such a political club to know where interests lie on campus.

"It's good that we're all here introducing what's out there, but I think it's hard for the first-years to really know what they are interested in," said Karu Kozuma '98, representative of Volunteer Services. "They are just getting their lives settled here, so it's hard for them to pick out what they want." Some groups want commitment right from the beginning, but most students put their names on a list to simply "think about becoming involved," he said.

First-year student Matt Venhorst '01 commented on the size of the crowd. "It's a little packed in here, and it's hard to get a handle on what's out there." Laura Daly '01, also first-year student, liked the way the fair "brings everything together under one roof, so everyone can be together finding things that interest them."

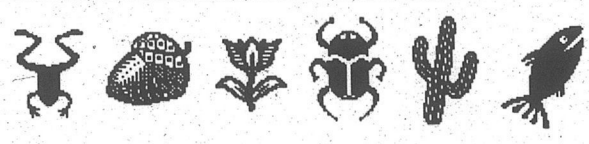
SGA Executive Committee Office Hours

President Bryan Stratton
Tuesday 1-2
Thursday 1-2
(or by appointment until 5)

Vice President Alyson Cucci
Monday 10-12
Tuesday 3-5
Wednesday 10-12
Thursday 12-2
Friday 1-3

Chief of Staff Alex Zwerdling
Monday 3:30-4:30
Wednesday 3:30-4:30

Treasurer Dan Bryan
Monday 1-2
Wednesday 1-2



Apply to serve as
a student representative to the
Environmental Council for the
1997-98 academic year.

We are looking for members who:

1. Demonstrate commitment to the mission and goals of the Council.
2. Are willing to commit significant amounts of time to Council programs and projects.
3. Demonstrate leadership skills in other campus organizations; environmentaly related and non-environmentally related.
4. Represent various classes, interests and residence halls.

More info? http://www.middlebury.edu/~enviroc

Submit applications to Jen Hazen, Service Building, by Friday, September 19. (X-5043)

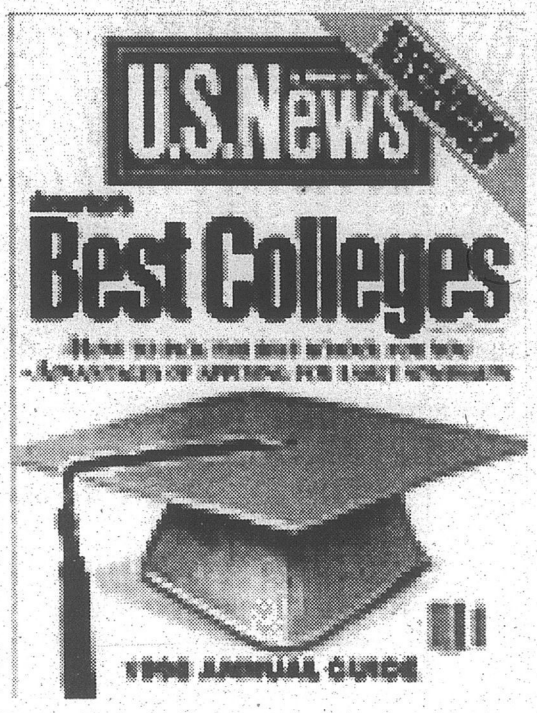
Middlebury ranks #8 in annual review

(continued from page 2)

rounded to the nearest whole number rather than extended to one decimal place as they were last year. This change caused many schools to share the same overall ranking. For example, Middlebury College is currently rated number eight with several other colleges including Bowdoin, Bryn Mawr, Claremont McKenna, Davidson, and Washington and Lee University. Hanson remarked that such "ties" are far better than "splitting hairs" and setting schools apart from one another by insignificant margins, often misguiding prospective students.

Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit also acknowledged that the *U.S. News* ranking process "has become more sophisticated over the years."

Despite the publication's improvements, however, Benoit shared Hanson's concern over the ranking because of its elements of subjectivity. He also noted that although a college's numbers in different areas may vary slightly from year to year, the college may still be essentially the same. In the case of Middlebury, Benoit believes that the college's numerical fluctuations, including its shift from seventh in the general ranking last year to eighth this year, are not a reflection of any drastic changes. While the ultimate goal of any college in terms of such rankings is to eventually rise to the top, Benoit identified steadily "maintaining a top ten status," as Middlebury's primary aim.



In the *U.S. News*' specialized surveys, Middlebury was listed as having one of the highest graduation rates, at 88 percent, and the third lowest acceptance rate, at 29 percent.

Overall, Hanson and Benoit both agree that the U.S. News rankings, if interpreted properly, can be an effective tool for college-bound students. Hanson concluded that while Middlebury may have a solid *U.S. News* ranking, "for some students it may be the number one choice, while for others it may not even be in the top 50."

Among some of the other schools which were included in the top 25 for the category of liberal arts institutions were:

1. Swarthmore
2. Amherst
3. Williams and Wellesley
5. Pomona
6. Haverford
7. Carleton
8. Middlebury
   Bowdoin
   Washington and Lee
   Davidson
   Claremont-McKenna
   Bryn Mawr
14. Smith and Grinnell
17. Vassar
18. Mount Holyoke and Colby
20. Colgate and Bates
22. Hamilton and Trinity
25. Macalester and College of the Holy Cross

Source:
U.S. News and World Report
September 1, 1997

Former fraternity house turns scholarly

David Barreda

Arlinda Wickland assumes position as *director of Student Fellowships and Scholarship's Office, housed in the former DKE fraternity house.*

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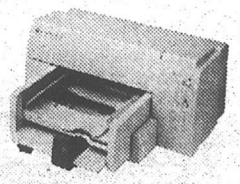

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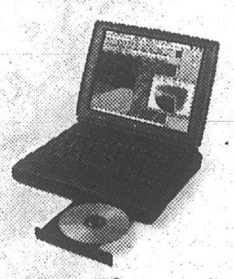

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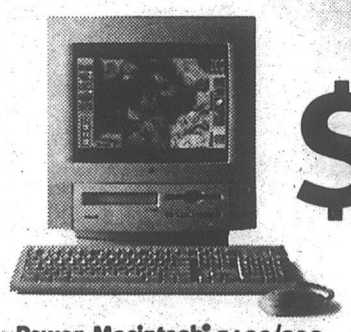

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College names Napolitano as new Middining director

(continued from page 1)
maintain the current all-you-can-eat system.

Concerning the lack of juice at dinner, the director states, "I am very customer sensitive and, with every problem, there is a solution," although Napolitano did not specify how dining would provide juice at dinner.

Napolitano set up director's roundtable dinners [at Dartmouth] during which students conveyed problems directly to him.

After spending five years of his career at the University of Rochester, Napolitano joined Dartmouth University as the head of dining services in 1988.

Napolitano decided to leave Dartmouth to look for new opportunities this summer after the administration cut back on several dining services which he supervised.

The new director has also completed a tenure as regional president of NACUFS (National Association of College and University Food Services).

Napolitano plans to make himself visible to students and welcomes input as he settles into his role as director of Middlebury's dining services.

David Barreda

Peter Napolitano has been appointed to replace Ted Mayer, pictured above, as director of Middining services.

Midd Moscow celebrates two decades

(continued from page 1)
area have also been invited to attend.

"The forum will help businesses that have an interest in investing in the former Soviet Union to explore opportunities there and to find employees with the right qualifications, including language skills," said Wittneben, president of the Geonomics Institute.

The conference is sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency and a number of corporate supporters including: American Chamber of Commerce in Russia; Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corporation; Latham & Watkins; Ward Howell International; Sector Capital; and the U.S.-Russia Business Council.

After the conference, McCardell will also visit the newly established Middlebury school abroad in Yaroslavl, Russia and explore internship opportunities for Middlebury students studying abroad.

Third Annual Peace Symposium

Thursday, September 18
7:30 p.m., Dana Auditorium
Keynote Address: "Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War."
Barbara Ehrenreich, author of *Fear of Falling: The Inner Life of the Middle Class* and essayist for *Time* magazine.

Friday, September 19
4:15 p.m., Geonomics Library
Presentation: "Rogue States and Nuclear Outlaws: America's Search for a New Foreign Policy."
Michael Klare, Peace and War Security Studies, Hampshire College.
6:00 p.m., Redfield Proctor
Dinner and Panel Discussion: Panelists respond to Professor Klare's presentation.
Ellen Kahier, Peace and Justice Center, Burlington;
John Wallach '64, Seeds of Peace International Camp, Maine;
Allison Stanger, Middlebury College Political Science Professor;
Guntram Herb, Middlebury College Geography Professor.
Moderator: Professor David Rosenberg, Political Science.
Space is limited, so please RSVP to Beth Karnes at *x5685*. Bring 1.D.

Saturday, September 20
10:00 a.m., Dana Auditorium
Presentation: Seeds of Peace.
John Wallach '64 will discuss his acclaimed conflict-resolution program for Middle Eastern youth.
Larry McDermott '99 will share his experiences as a counselor at the program this summer.

McCardell fields students' questions

(continued from page 3)
atmosphere of pride and loyalty in both students and faculty members that would endure well past graduation. Changes to the term "commons system" are being considered so as to more accurately describe the new system.

Within his proposal, first-year students will continue to be housed "together" either on the same hall or in the same building. McCardell also explained that the new commons system will not necessarily require an increase in staff members because there are many student resources, such as the Career Services Office, that will remain centralized; while other areas such as custodial and food service will be tied to the commons.

The college finds itself at a "magical moment" in its history because it is designing and implementing the definition of what the college will be over the next 100 years.

The nature of the new commons will in no way hinder students' preparation for entering the "real world", McCardell guaranteed. Students are nurtured and otherwise prepared to function in the "real world" in a place such as Middlebury that has higher standards and aspirations than society in general.

McCardell emphasized that the resolution to alter the commons system was not predicated on growth of the college. Rather, the expanding student body created the opportunity to consider this change, he said. He also promised that student input on the proposed changes to the commons and residential life systems will be "genuine, widespread, frequent and ongoing."

Areshidze urges more interaction from international students

Irakly Areshidze '00

I had not planned to write this week; yet here I am writing things that may anger a particular group of students. My intention, however, is not to make people angry, but rather to maybe change the way some things are happening on this campus in hopes of making this school a better place.

This year we all shall talk about our community here at Middlebury. The discussion about the future of residential life will force us to think about whether we all are doing our best to create a place that can serve as a teacher for all people who choose to come to this place in the middle of nowhere in order to get an education.

There is a group among us, of which I am a member, with a very unique role to play in this educational community. This group consists of over 250 international students. Five years ago I came to the United States to attend a boarding school which in many respects is a small Middlebury. Much like Middlebury, Hebron Academy is located in middle of the nowhere that is New England, where it is always cold and many claim that there is nothing to do. Yet like Middlebury it is an incredible place which I love with all my heart. Also like Middlebury, Hebron has a very large international population (about 20 percent of the school).

When I came to the United States I knew that I was embarking on an adventure at the end of which I would be a very different person. There was so much about this country that I did not know and I felt so very fortunate to have an opportunity to come here and learn. I believed that all other international students at Hebron were there to learn from America and to learn about America. Furthermore, I was very glad to be at a school where there were people from many different countries from whom you could learn so many new things.

I soon realized that some of my presuppositions were wrong. At Hebron, most international students did not see themselves as Americans' equals. They did not want, or did not try, to integrate into a community that wanted them as full-term members. Rather, they chose to hang out together, to not participate in any non-mandatory activities and to form an international clique.

This letter, however, is not a story about Hebron. The issue I would like to lay before you today stems from the fact that almost everything I have said about Hebron is also true of Middlebury, on a larger scale.

"Unless you become part of the community you are put into, you give up the opportunity that was given to you. This opportunity is too important and too precious to be missed."

I look at the Middlebury and I see a small metropolis: you have people from 50 states and over 60 foreign countries. Yet a closer examination of this school shows that the students from 50 states do not spend much time with the students from 75 countries. You have one large community, and within it there is a faction of 250 or so international students. Most of these international students, unlike most Americans I know, do not choose to think of Middlebury as their home, as a place that will be a part of their souls for the rest of their lives. Rather, they choose to think of Middlebury as a place where they come to learn and then leave. Furthermore, this large faction is divided into smaller factions of students from this part of the globe or that (or if one country has many representatives, then the division is by country).

A means of describing our (international students') current situation is apathy; yet it is a special kind of apathy. It is not that international students do not want to be involved. They do. However, they choose to be involved in groups like the ISO or the cultural clubs. You do not see many international students who are JCs or who lead MOO trips. I am not saying that the ISO or other clubs are bad and these other things are good. I myself am a member of the Slavic Club and of the ISO. The problem is that if one is only involved in "international things," if one chooses to live on an international hall and get angry when an athlete is placed in an empty room on that hall, then that person isolates himself from the things he should be here for: the American culture and the American people.

Someone reading this may say that it is unfair of me to blame only the international students for this large gulf that is created between them and the student body as a whole. It is quite true that American students have some share of responsibility in developing friendships with people from different countries, people who may not be like them. However, most of the responsibility lies with non-Americans. My host parents run an organization that among many things brings students from the former Soviet Union to this country to study for a semester or two. Several times I have been asked to help with the orientation of these students. Every time I say this one thing: "For every step that an American takes towardsyou (meaning the foreign student), it is your responsibility to take 10 steps toward them. This is their country, this is their life and you are coming into it. They will be fine without you here. However, you chose to come to this country and you got an opportunity that millions of students around the world would give everything to have. Unless you become part of the community you are put into, you give up the opportunity that was given to you. This opportunity is too important and too precious to be missed. In addition, you do nothing to make the community a better place." It is unfair to ask international student to take 10 steps for one by an American, but life is not very fair and some things must happen.

Let me finish with the following three things: I do not want this letter to be taken as mere criticism. If I did not know better I would hope that at least one student from the many international students who only eat amongst themselves in the upstairs of Proctor, who do not like talking to Americans, who think that most students here are arrogant and irresponsible, would think about what I had to say and maybe try something different.

Let me also say that certain generalizations in this letter may be too broad. For that I sincerely apologize. I do not want anyone to take this personally. I will probably be accused of not knowing what it is like to be coming to a different culture as a student, not seeing your home country for extended periods of time, not experiencing all the luxuries of American life, etc. I have been in those shoes, however; I wore them at the age of 14.

New commons will divide student body

Isabel Domeyko '98

The changes President McCardell has proposed regarding campus life are seminal: decentralized dining, faculty housing in proximity — in short, a "bigger and better" commons system. These changes, because of their vastness, must be justified in an articulate manner.

According to President McCardell's speech, though, Middlebury must go ahead with the commons system because Kathy Ebner's commons report last spring reported no more than widespread opposition to the commons system. I found this a disappointing justification. An analogous comparison to the way the commons system was implemented follows: Let's say that someone suddenly proposed an air-conditioner in your room to be used during the school year.

Well, you don't really need an air conditioner in Vermont from September through May, and besides, it takes up space in your room. But 'someone' has decided you need it anyway, and after several arguments, the air conditioner is installed in your room. Once it is there, you use it maybe twice in September and twice in June. During the year, your RA tries to show you how to use all of the nifty dials and what not, although you aren't really paying attention because more cold air is the last thing you need when it's 20 below outside. By the time Spring rolls around, you've just gotten used to the reality of having the air conditioner in your room.

So then, having stopped complaining about it, "someone" decides that it's time to replace your air conditioner with a "bigger and better" model because after all, you're not really against having it there anymore. I don't think of the commons system as an air conditioner, but from his speech, President McCardell could have been talking about one. What President McCardell was saying is that even if students don't use the commons, don't care about the commons and above all don't identify themselves with the commons, he nevertheless advocates the creation of a social-residential system founded on the commons system. The commons is an imperfect system with an ambiguous and extremely challenging objective: to build community through residency. The question yet to be answered is: Why do we need to force people to socialize with each other by simple virtue of their location (i.e.. Hepburn or Hadley)?

"...Why do we need to force people to socialize with each other by simple virtue of their location?"

I can't answer this question, although I can state at least two reasons why we should not do this. Firstly, and simply put, my best social options may not be available in my commons system. Maybe I feel that the limit of what I have in common with someone who lives two floors up from me is just that. Secondly, after our four years of college, we should be ready to go out into the "big" world knowing how to create communities of our own.

Indeed, part of the college experience should be learning how to build communities which answer our individual needs, needs that change over the course of the four years. New students, (as well as those returning from study abroad), usually feel like strangers at Middlebury; but isn't that part of the process of life? I wonder if a new system based on the commons will provide a ready-made community for us, and thus deprive us of acquiring community-building skills we will need later. As it stands, Middlebury students are somewhat forced to go out and create communities by joining student organizations, playing sports, etc. The proposed commons system may give Middlebury that "small-town" feel, but will it prepare us for or hinder our post-Middlebury lives? Raising the number of college students on campus may be a good investment for the future of Middlebury College.

Enhancing the social-residential system may also be called for. But implementing President McCardell's proposals vis-à-vis a system for which Middlebury students have already shown their indifference over the past five years does not seem to me to be a worthy expenditure, nor a worthy investment if it risks preventing us from being prepared for our post-Middlebury lives.

One of Middlebury's 'own' remembered

Robb Wood '97.5

No wonder "taking care of your own" has always been such a popular idea. "Your own" — the people and things that make up your personal world — are important to you, and you naturally try to make sure that everything goes well with them. It makes perfect sense. Back in the good old days (I'm not sure of the date, but it must have been around the time that the phrase was coined) "taking care of your own" must have been easy. Everyone knew who their own was, and they generally stuck together. "Owns" could easily congregate and take care of each other — whether it was around the dinner table, at church or on the good old battle field. It was easy then. The last thing we needed was to have the information age come in and swirl all the owns around.

Well, it happened anyway. People started talking on the phone, reading their computers and traveling all over the world. Friends — "owns" who make up your personal world — and their ships started popping up in the strangest places. In the midst of the craziness, an "own" of people from Tibet by the name of Ngawang Choephel came to Middlebury College to study music. During his stay, many people here came to know him as a kind, interested and passionate man.

In 1995, as one of Middlebury's "own," Ngawang traveled to Tibet to study and record the traditional music of his homeland. Two years ago on September 15 in Shigatse, Tibet, he was arrested by Chinese authorities. They accused him of espionage and sentenced him — without sufficient evidence — to 18 years in prison. Ngawang is not a unique case. Tibet has been occupied by China since 1950. The historical justification for the occupation is disputable and hotly disputed. The ethical treatment of the Tibetan "own" by Chinese authorities since occupation is somewhat less disputed. Most people agree that it has generally been some degree of bad.

On this two year anniversary of Ngawang's arrest, we in the Middlebury community have the opportunity to consider what this "information-age own" swirl has done to us. Certainly, it has blurred — if not erased — the lines we draw when we try to take care of our own. We have an "own" stuck in prison on the other side of the world. Many of his "owns" are facing similar treatment. If we took all the "owns" of all the people in the Middlebury area, we would probably have a collective "own" including every country and "issue side" in the world. That considered, perhaps the best way to meaningfully take care of our own is to promote cross-own dialogue and hope that some more inclusive "owns are created." Unfortunately, many "owns" need hefty prompting to agree to begin dialogue. We in the Middlebury community are in the fortunate position of being able to do some of the prompting. Because of those who have taken action — by letter writing, calling, etc. — our Secretary of State plans to assign a Special Commissioner for Tibetan Affairs, whose primary responsibility is to promote dialogue between the Dalai Lama and the Chinese government. We all have the opportunity to encourage this type of positive action. The choice is our own.

Editorial

Eating away at the big picture

Long lines extending out of Proctor during the lunch rush and the accompanying frustration at not finding a seat inside are accepted facts of life at Middlebury. We complain of money wasted if we don't eat three meals a day, seven days a week, in campus dining halls and have questioned the lack of meal plans that offer us more options. Our little complaints–Where are the napkins when you need them? What happened to the fresh bagels? are promptly attended to when they are registered on comment cards and napkins.

But these big problems have never really been resolved. Thus far, Middining has been missing the forest for the trees–and in the process missing out on the opportunity to improve the system for future generations of students.

Decentralized dining is a central tenet of President McCardell's goal to have Middlebury recognized for the quality of its student life. New dining facilities will help the college meet this ambitious goal. However, we as students must ensure that old problems do not work their way into the foundations of the new system. Certain issues, primarily–lines, crowds, and inflexibility regarding when, how often and how much students eat on campus–span the gap between student needs and what Middining claims are the limits of their ability. It would seem that the current administration has lacked the means or the power to affect the major changes for which students are clamoring. Perhaps the new dining director, who has expressed his desire to interact with students in determining their needs and wants, will provide an impetus for change.

As Middlebury undergoes immense changes itself, it is perhaps the best time to introduce a new, and hopefully more imaginative, director of dining services to facilitate these dramatic alterations. Although Middlebury's intention to move forward with the proposed commons plan seems inevitable, the means are hardly written in stone. Students can-and should- grasp this opportunity to become proactive in the preparation for the future. Why can't we have the dining system that fits the needs of current student? If the system is inadequate for us, what can future students expect?

Dining is a mainstay of McCardell's proposal for the future of Middlebury. We all say we want to make changes in the system, from the beverage bar to the board room. Now is our chance. We might no longer be students when the new dining plan goes into action, but we can make the administration aware of how Middining can improve so that the new system does not perpetuate old problems.

We have the small stuff under control. It's time to look at the big picture.

The Middlebury Campus

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Letters to the Editor

IHC President defends social houses

I write to dispel some misconceptions that have been published in *The Campus* in past weeks about social houses and social house members. Students who are not involved in the social house system might believe that the only function of social houses is to organize parties during the weekends.

Students holding such a view are not aware of the full benefits and opportunities that social houses offer to both their members and to the greater Middlebury community.

Any member of a social house would tell you that membership means much more to them than providing parties for the campus. Membership in a social house allows students to develop close relationships with others who have diverse interests.

Social houses also provide a setting for students to develop social skills that enable them to more effectively interact with their peers. These "real-life" skills cannot be fully honed in the library or the classroom, but are nonetheless an invaluable component of "the development of the mind in the fullest sense" as specified in the College Mission Statement.

Social houses also give members numerous leadership opportunities and enable them to interact with the Deans, Student Activities, SGA, Residential Life Committee and faculty.

"Social houses also provide a setting for students to develop social skills that enable them to more effectively interact with their peers."

In addition, social houses provide members the opportunity to assume responsibility and accountability in a forum that is unique to the college community.

In addition to the aforementioned opportunities, social houses allow students to participate in the larger Middlebury community.

The IHC [Inter House Council] has recently recommitted itself to making a positive impact in the community through both house and IHC initiatives.

Community service has become a cornerstone of the reformed education process approved by the Residential Life Committee this past spring.

I invite all who are interested in learning more about the social house system to come to Rush events beginning next Wednesday evening.

Ryan S. Harter is the President of the Inter-House Council and a member of the Middlebury class of 1998.

Senior questions media's coverage

Elissa Mulligan '98

Saturday, August 30th: I was sitting in my den around 9:00 PM watching Early Edition and thinking about my trip to St. Michael's College the next day when a CBS special report broke in.

With a solemn face the reporter announced that Lady Diana had been in a tragic car accident that left her companion Dodi Al Fayad and his chauffeur dead. Diana was reported to be in serious but stable condition and then CBS returned me to my regularly scheduled programming. By the time I went to bed that night I knew that Lady Diana had also died in the crash and that it was believed that the paparazzi were to blame.

Sunday, August 31st: The papers that morning all had banner headlines announcing the death of the "Princess of Hearts".

The *New York Post* carried a special 16 page edition devoted exclusively to covering the accident. The evening news announced plans for TV specials detailing her life to be shown that evening. Dateline scraped its scheduled stories and reported on "The Death of a Princess." This media blitz would continue throughout the week as the paparazzi who chased the car were charged and arrested by the Parisian authorities, the autopsy on the driver revealed that he was drunk and the Royal family was criticized for the way they reacted to the tragedy. The *Post* continued to have special editions dedicated solely to Diana published and Dateline continued its "Death of a Princess" series throughout the week. Elton John was interviewed about his plans to sing at the funeral. The funeral itself was debated and revised. Finally on Friday papers carried the detailed itinerary for the funeral including the new lyrics to "Candle In The Wind" that Elton John would sing. Then the focus shifted — or should have.

Friday, September 5th: My mother and I went to play a last game of miniature golf before I left for college the next day. As we stood at the counter picking the balls we wanted and getting the scorecards, the TV screen behind the counter flashed another "Special Report" logo. Expecting to hear more about Lady Diana we turned to go knowing that it would be rehashed on the evening news. "Mother Theresa, often called the Living Saint, died today."

We watched the report until it too returned to regular programming and then finished our game and went home. We turned on the news that night expecting detailed coverage of Mother's death. Instead we were treated to the continuing debate about whether Prince William would walk behind his mother's casket. The news shows that night continued to devote their time to Diana's death which was already a week past.

"Mother Theresa lived amongst the "poorest of the poor" and gave the stricken the right to die as human beings instead of animals... "

I decided to give them the benefit of the doubt — perhaps they needed more time to gather information from India about Mother's death. They would report it when they had all the information. The next morning I expected headlines mourning the loss of the Living Saint, but nothing was there — Only Diana's funeral plans. Sunday came and went with reports on Diana's funeral and still only a short article about Mother Theresa.

It has been almost three weeks since Diana died and, yet, when I turn on the TV or open the newspaper I can still find reports about her.

It has been only two weeks since Mother Theresa's death and I still have yet to see a headline or news show dedicated to her. I didn't know that her funeral was televised because no major network carried it; I found out at midnight when I happened upon it on MSNBC. Dateline interviewed an author last night that has planned a book about the Royal family and Diana's struggles with them. Mother Theresa is apparently a forgotten subject.

Even Oprah mentioned in her season premiere that the only TV she watched this summer was Lady Diana's funeral. Amazing.

I do not deny that Diana's death was a tragedy and a loss for the world. She did a lot of good for people living with HIV, as well as those maimed by land mines or living in poverty. I sympathize with the British people and I grieve for her sons who must now grow up without their loving mother.

However, Mother Theresa lived amongst the "poorest of the poor" and gave the stricken the right to die as human beings instead of animals. She pulled people out of the gutter and carried them, once in a wheelbarrow, to shelter.

She started a religious order that now has chapters in Los Angeles and New York. She gave hope to the hopeless and provided an example for us all. She said once that she saw the sick and the poor as "Jesus in a distressing disguise." As a compassionate human being I am reminded that I too must try to see my fellow humans as glorious people to be respected and aided when they are in need.

I find it distressing that the example of this wonderful, humble woman should be buried under the avalanche of media dedicated to Lady Diana. I would not hesitate to say that Diana herself would be distressed by such an occurrence. She knew Mother Theresa, a fact that the media

(see Mother Teresa, page 9)

Costly new proposal fails to alleviate college's real problems

Beginning my third year at Middlebury, having had, what I consider to be, sufficient time to gain a clear understanding and to paint a fairly credible picture of Middle-

Athena Fliakos '99

bury life, I am suddenly overcome with an urge to express my disappointment. My disappointment is not over Middlebury life the way it goes now as much as it is for the reaction to the life of which its administration obviously disapproves.

Upon receiving a copy of the Board of Trustees' and President McCardell's mission statement regarding the improvement of social life here on campus I could not help but be disgusted and saddened by the blatant ignorance of what student life is actually like. I do not take issue at all with the idea to implement a more effective and more structured commons system. With the social house system the way it stands now, its exclusivity and its recently earned reputation for causing personal injury to those who decide to pledge the system, and considering that one fewer social house leaves one less choice for those people, certainly something needs to be done about Greek life. The change, however, will not come with banning certain houses for incidents that are part and parcel of the system. It should come as no surprise that at least one pledge per class per house will battle alcohol poisoning during the initiation process. And since when have social houses (fraternities and sororities) been about anything other than paying to get drunk with people who may or may not share the same interests but all of whom bond as a result of the extremely trying process of becoming a bonified member of a secret society (brotherhood/sisterhood)? With all of its exclusivity and elbow rubbing, snubbing and selecting, I am not even criticizing the system. What I have a problem with is that any of it comes as enough of a surprise to cause the administration to ban a house for the sole purpose of making it an example, a warning to the student body that hazing will not be tolerated.

A word of advice to the administration of a school made up mostly of white, New England prep school graduates, many of whom originally hail from the East coast and have been issued a more than adequate sport utility vehicle providing safe transportation to and from their ski condos or sky-rise penthouses during inclement Vermont weather: hazing is bred into most of us; no banning of a house or threatening lawsuits for harassment is going to manage the problem. Hazing and harassing is as much part of Middlebury College life as soft serve frozen yogurt. Although not always vocalized, and very often far beneath the surface of north country quaint, one would be hard pressed to find a student, who being honest about his/her freshman year, does not have one story or another to tell about being harassed in a beer line or at a party to which he or she was "invited". No one who is honest about Middlebury dining would ever deny having felt like a piece of meat hanging around Proctor between noon and 1:00 p.m. or 6:00 pm and 7:00. Perhaps decentralized dining would help rectify the situation in Proctor, although, having been guilty of it myself for most of my meals here, the "checking out" that goes on in Proctor might be the most normal thing that goes on in Middlebury's social life. After all, except for an occasional weekend night, much of the scoping is done sober, even if a little stoned, but mostly without the deceptive lenses of beer goggles and excessively enhanced hormones.

Decentralized dining is not something on which Middlebury College needs to spend $210 million. Nor is adult supervision worth $210 million. Another word of advice to the administration: no membership to a certain "college" or club can be forced on people who have been raised, trained, even, to find other people whose backgrounds are similar to theirs, whose stratification socially and economically is minimal and whose parents summer on the same sleepy Hampton, Cape or Vineyard. And when clubs are banned from campus, parties will be moved off campus... and here is where the administration of a tiny private college like this one is going to have to answer to more parents than it ever knew cared, about why Susie and John and Billy wrapped a pathfinder around a tree on their way back to campus on Saturday night.

Middlebury doesn't need social engineering, it needs sanctioned gathering spaces where students, who are not going to look for love in the Abernathy room or in the music section of a book store, can catch their buzz and find their mate for the evening and know how to throw on a condom during all of that nonsensual, sloppy lovemaking. It is unfortunate how few of us are willing to put out the signal sober, how few of us are concerned about what happens Sunday morning, if we are not back to our beds by then. It is unfortunate, this need to get what we can from whomever we can, but looking for love in all the wrong places is what Middlebury College is all about.

Before anything changes in the way students interact, there needs to be $210 million spent on educating young women on campus about why they should cease from starving themselves in order to avoid having the bone mass of a 90 year old woman by the time they are 25, and in order that they might still have the chance to reproduce if ever they do happen to find a mate good enough to keep for longer than a night. $210 million should be spent on educating men to be equally responsible, before throwing it in, and to throw on a rubber since they, too, are not immune to STD's. $210 million dollars should be spent on gleaning the very best from all over United States even if it means accepting and providing full tuition for a ballerina, a basketball player or a cellist who comes from East L.A. or East Hartford. There are thousands of students all over the world willing to give a limb to attend a school like Middlebury, to be educated in the U.S., but who simply cannot afford it. $210 million should be spent on taking Middlebury students off the hill and into Vermont and New York to all the places and for all the things most of us prep school snobs came here for in the first place. Middlebury is in Vermont, not New Haven, Boston or Providence.

There are people who chose this place because of what it has to offer after the keg stand and not only what it has to offer in the classroom after the hangover. Socially engineering Middlebury to be like Yale or Harvard, assigning people to social climbing clubs will only lend to the already sickening tendency taught to us by most of our parents to "network now."

Everyone finds friends here. Whether they are considered cool, popular or whatever, people carve out their places here socially without the help of the administration. What students do need help with is a little spiritual engineering. Some convincing that better, more productive and more memorable sex comes sober, that two beers can sometimes do the trick and that even when two beers won't suffice(which is often the case)it is not wrong to puke your guts out, only wrong to leave it there until Monday morning.

Negatives of construction examined

As I was finishing up my drive to school last Friday, I pulled in front of Carr Hall for my room key and noticed something was very different about College Street from last year. The road seemed much

Rick Miller '99

narrower and the interspersing of new gray lights on campus assured me that at night Middlebury College would be much more illuminated than in years past. At last, I thought to myself, something was finally done about the darkness as well as the fast driving that was present on this campus.

For years, lighting on campus has been an issue widely discussed by many members of the college community. Many students have felt that Middlebury College has not been a sufficiently lit campus. The additional lighting now on campus has been a long time coming and is long overdue.

Many women on campus have expressed a general feeling of insecurity due to the dimly lit campus, especially in the area between McCullough and Mead Chapel, where only one of the lamps now present in that area are currently functioning.

The narrowing of College Street is another issue that has recently come to the table for discussion. Last year, several students were hit by cars, most notably outside of Adirondack. In addition, many cars fly through the college campus coming from the west on Route 125 as well as on the way to class. The much narrower College Street should curb cars from greatly exceeding the speed limit and prevent any further accidents. However, student opinion on campus has been mixed at best. While many feel that the narrower lanes are a necessary deterrent against speeding on College Street, many others maintain an opposite conclusion.

Although speeding may be decreased, the lack of parking on College Street will further add to the parking crunch that is currently enveloping the campus. In addition, come winter time, students think that the size of a snowplow will cause only one lane to be open. Accidents may also be more common due to the diminishing of space that this new construction has brought. With less room to maneuver, cars forced out of control by the snow may collide more frequently.

Currently, there are a plethora of thoughts about the recent changes to the Middlebury College campus on College Street. It is impossible to say who will be right and who will be wrong; there are simply too many varied opinions.

The important thing is that these changes have already had an impact on our college community and we've only been in class for one week. Right now, this is more than a lot of people probably expected.

Stratton supports motives of administration

By now, everyone and his (or her) brother has heard rumors of President McCardell's proposal to reshape the college and reorganize the residential system. Predictably,

Bryan Stratton '98

90% of those people have already advanced conspiracy theories about what this means. Just to set your minds at ease, let me be frank: the new plan is indeed a plot to destroy social houses, isolate students by commons and increase the size of the student body to 40,000 by 2010. What's good about the proposal, however, is that we're getting a student-run pub and student center in McCullough.

I used to be one of those people who assumed that any proposal which had John McCardell's name attached to it must be some hideously-overcomplicated Illuminati plot designed solely to boost our rankings in U.S. News & World Report purely at the expense of the students' enjoyment. A little involvement in "the System," however, has shown me that not only is this unlikely, it's unlikely to ever happen, no matter how crafty the Old Chapel staff might be.

"...believe it or not – the administration wants to make Middlebury College a better place to be."

For one thing, any huge changes to the college's physical, educational or residential systems must go through the Board of Trustees. The board is made up largely of Middlebury alums who enjoyed their time here at the college so thoroughly that they have dedicated a great deal of time and energy to making sure that their successors have the same positive experiences. They are ex-students who remember what it was like to be a student and, more importantly, what it was like to be a student and have to deal with the Administration.

For another thing, student opinion is a lot more powerful than many people think. If the students genuinely dislike something, and they make a big enough stink about it, it will change sometimes even for the better. The administration doesn't want Middlebury's own students to bash their college; that's not good business. And they certainly don't want the trustees hearing nasty rumors about the way / their alma mater is being run these days.

And on top of it all believe it or not the administration wants to make Middlebury College a better place to be. Think about it: what possible benefit is there for John McCardell, Ron Liebowitz or any of the Old Chapel folks to make choices that no one likes but themselves?

The only problem in recent years has been that neither side has communicated particularly well with the other. So that has to change, and everyone has a responsibility to work towards that end. Now I'll get off of my soapbox for this week and let you go on to FoxTrot. Questions and comments and cries of "you sold out" are always welcome at stratton@panther.middlebury.edu and Box 3362.

Mother Teresa's death remembered

(continued from page 8)

mentioned whenever they did talk about Mother, and I highly doubt she would have wanted herself to take precedence over Mother's death.

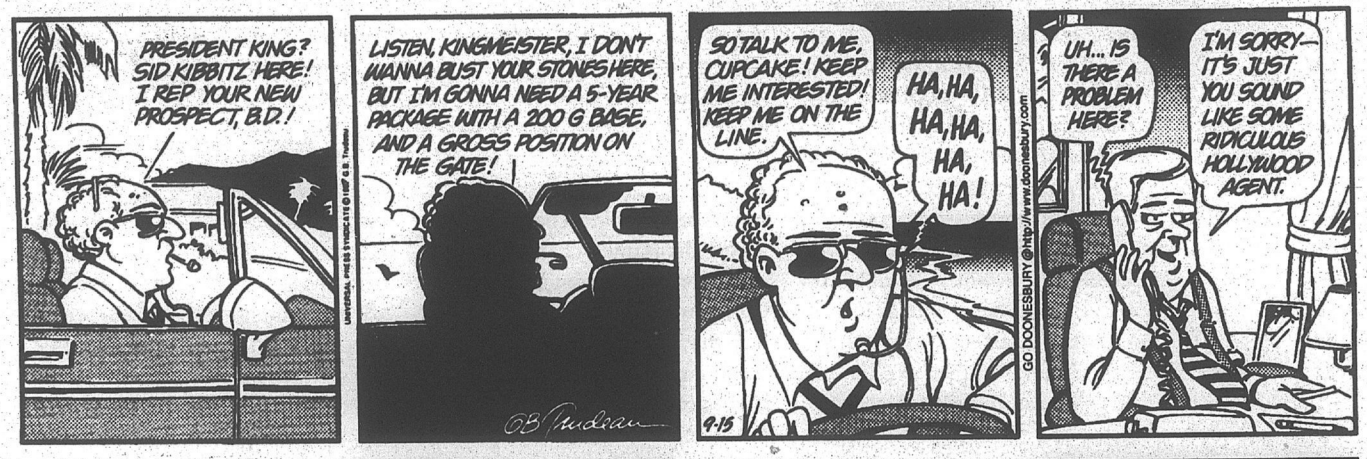
I was truly surprised, saddened and ashamed when I could not find information on Mother Theresa's death. Surprised because I think that there a very few people in the world who have not at least heard of Mother and would not want to know about her death. Saddened because she deserved at this one moment to have people recognize that she was a wonderful person and show her that her example to us did not go unnoticed.

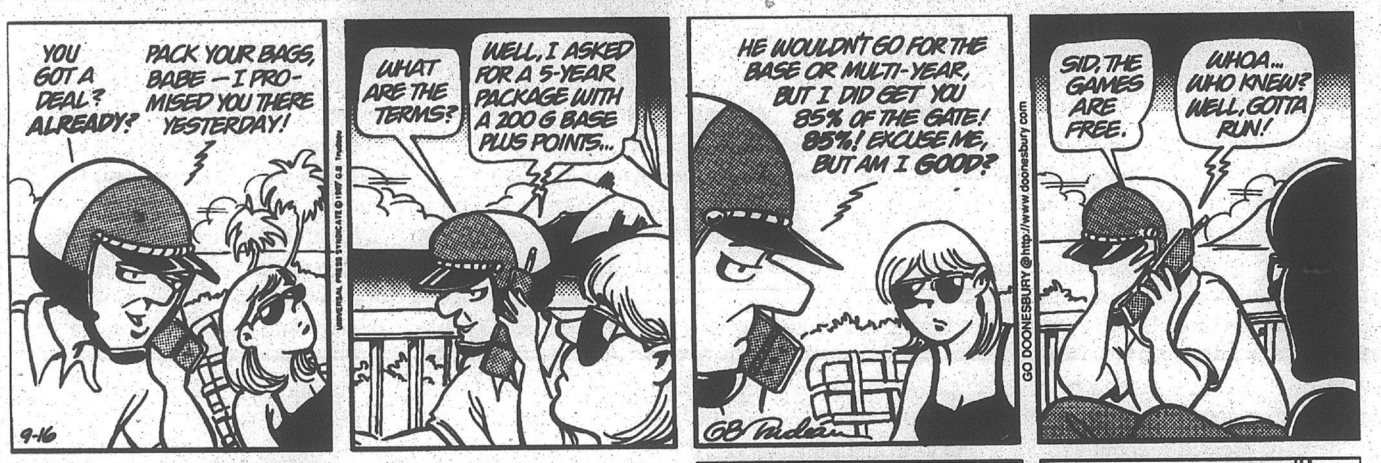
Ashamed because I cannot reconcile my belief in the goodness in the world with the lack of grief shown over Mother's death. She truly was a Living Saint and I only hope that her example will never be forgotten and that we all learned something from her.

I also hope that someday we will care more about the humility and subtlety incorporated by Mother rather than the glitz and glare of celebrity that brought Diana so much pain. The world is poorer for the loss of them both.

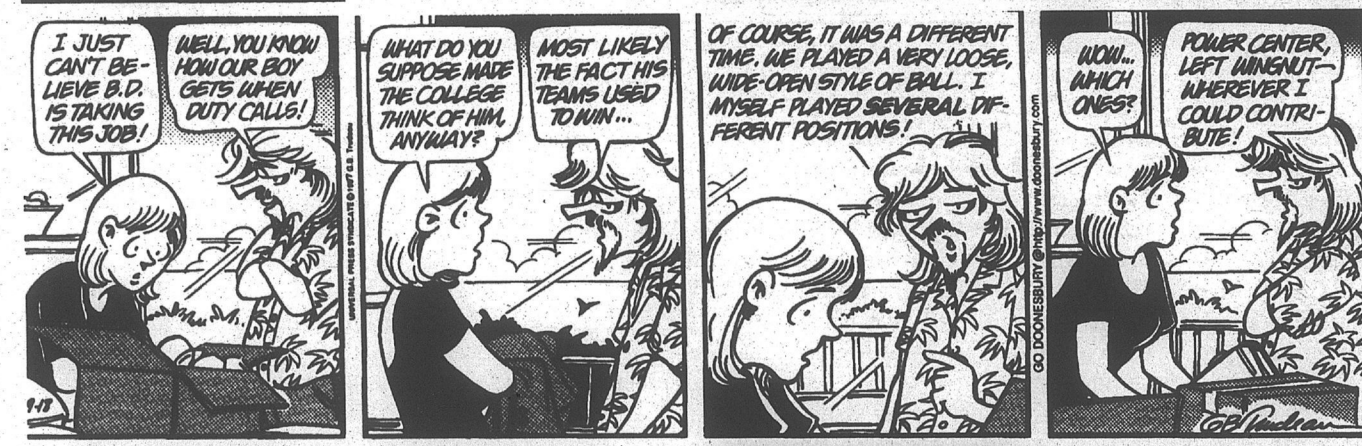
Doonesbury

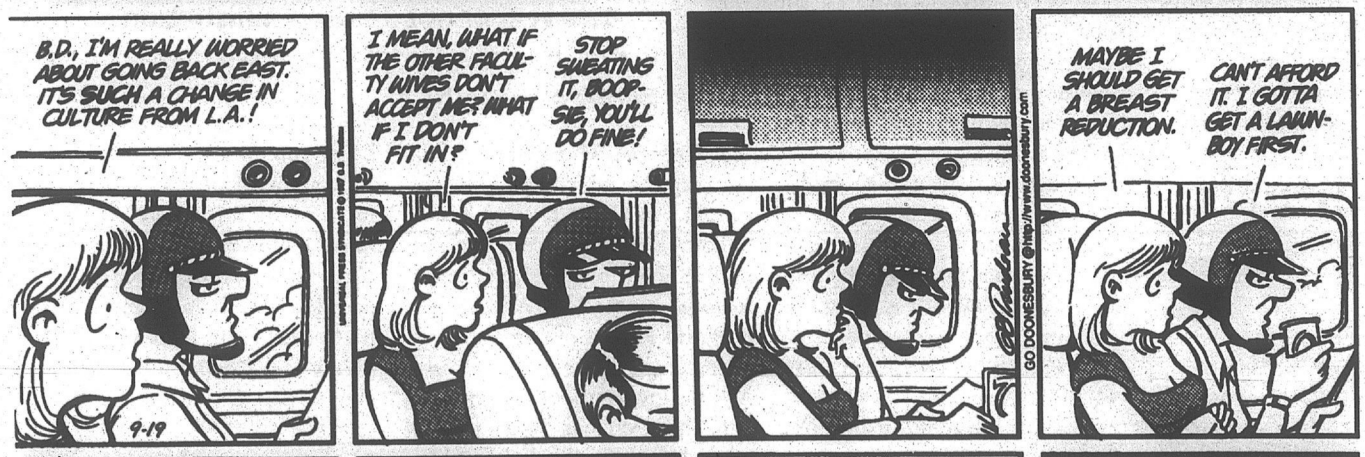
BY G.B. TRUDEAU


PRESIDENT KING? SID KIBBITZ HERE! I REP YOUR NEW PROSPECT, B.D.!
LISTEN, KINGMEISTER, I DON'T WANNA BUST YOUR STONES HERE, BUT I'M GONNA NEED A 5-YEAR PACKAGE WITH A 200 G BASE, AND A GROSS POSITION ON THE GATE!
SO TALK TO ME, CUPCAKE! KEEP ME INTERESTED! KEEP ME ON THE LINE.
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!
UH... IS THERE A PROBLEM HERE?
I'M SORRY— IT'S JUST YOU SOUND LIKE SOME RIDICULOUS HOLLYWOOD AGENT.
9-15
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com


YOU GOT A DEAL? ALREADY?
PACK YOUR BAGS, BABE — I PROMISED YOU THERE YESTERDAY!
WHAT ARE THE TERMS?
WELL, I ASKED FOR A 5-YEAR PACKAGE WITH A 200 G BASE PLUS POINTS...
HE WOULDN'T GO FOR THE BASE OR MULTI-YEAR, BUT I DID GET YOU 85% OF THE GATE! 85%! EXCUSE ME, BUT AM I GOOD?
SID, THE GAMES ARE FREE.
WHOA... WHO KNEW? WELL, GOTTA RUN!
9-16
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com

THE TEAM NEEDS ME RIGHT AWAY, SO MOMMY AND I WILL FLY AHEAD. AFTER WE GET SETTLED IN, WE'LL SEND FOR YOU AND ZONK!
IT SHOULDN'T BE MORE THAN A FEW WEEKS. HOPE YOU GUYS DON'T MIND HOLDING DOWN THE FORT...
PAR-TY! PAR-TY!
THE MIND DOES REEL HERE...
9-17
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com


I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE B.D. IS TAKING THIS JOB!
WELL, YOU KNOW HOW OUR BOY GETS WHEN DUTY CALLS!
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE MADE THE COLLEGE THINK OF HIM, ANYWAY?
MOST LIKELY THE FACT HIS TEAMS USED TO WIN...
OF COURSE, IT WAS A DIFFERENT TIME. WE PLAYED A VERY LOOSE, WIDE-OPEN STYLE OF BALL. I MYSELF PLAYED SEVERAL DIFFERENT POSITIONS!
WOW... WHICH ONES?
POWER CENTER, LEFT WINGNUT— WHEREVER I COULD CONTRIBUTE!
9-18
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com


B.D., I'M REALLY WORRIED ABOUT GOING BACK EAST. IT'S SUCH A CHANGE IN CULTURE FROM L.A.!
I MEAN, WHAT IF THE OTHER FACULTY WIVES DON'T ACCEPT ME? WHAT IF I DON'T FIT IN?
STOP SWEATING IT, BOOPSIE, YOU'LL DO FINE!
MAYBE I SHOULD GET A BREAST REDUCTION.
CAN'T AFFORD IT. I GOTTA GET A LAWNBOY FIRST.
9-19
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com

IS ANYONE MEETING US AT THE GATE?
YEAH. ONE OF THE GUYS FROM THE TEAM...
BOY, IT FEELS GOOD TO BE OUT OF L.A.! I FEEL LIKE I CAN BREATHE AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS!
IT'S FUNNY— YOU DON'T REALIZE HOW SOUL-DEADENING ALL THE HYPE AND GREED IS UNTIL YOU ACTUALLY LEAVE IT BEHIND!
COACH! WELCOME BACK!
UH-OH...
9-20
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com

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CLASSIFIEDS

Habitat volunteers lend energy to local families

By Kate Barch
Staff Writer

On a hillside in nearby Huntington, Middlebury students have found a respite from book learning. Up a dirt road just off route 116, behind the soil and grasses unearthed to make room for its foundation is an unfinished house, soon to become a home. What might seem like the middle of nowhere to many Middlebury students is the long-awaited haven for Laura, her husband, and their four children who are the recipients of a new Habitat for Humanity project that they have been integral in constructing.

Saturday morning, an eager crowd of professional contractors, local volunteers, and members of the Middlebury College and University of Vermont chapters of Habitat gathered amidst the paint rollers and debris in the home's entryway to begin their work day together.

As is customary on Habitat building sites, the director of the project took the opportunity to praise the laborers and homeowners for their perseverance and to remind them of Habitat's mission to provide decent housing for God's people in need. The familial tone set, the skilled and not-so-skilled workers spoke briefly, then looked to dirty their hands with putty and paint.

Perfection is expected. Volunteer work shouldn't mean sloppy work; an ideal the director conveyed in a soft voice while grimacing at the stains on the white ceiling left by workers two days before.

"Laura deserves a nice looking room," he says. Though Laura is out of earshot, she is sweeping the floors in the next room in preparation to lay tile. Ever since the project began last spring, Laura and her husband have seen "do-gooders" passing through their door frames with the intention of making a difference. Inevitably they do, though much of the time it is the volunteers who benefit from the hands-on work and from the loving atmosphere that is cultivated on this, and many, Habitat sites.

Middlebury students are newcomers to Laura's home, though the college's chapter has been raising funds since the fall of '96 in conjunction with UVM to support the Huntington endeavor. A "Build 'n' Bash" party held in Ross Lounge and a student art auction were both successful attempts to gather support and money for the "habitat"

(see Habitat, page 14)

Courtesy Photo

Despite sometimes sloppy work, Habitat volunteers persevere in their mission to build houses for people in need.

Addison Humane Society battles exotic pet trade

By Ramya Chari
Staff Writer

A couple of years ago I lived down the road from your typical New England neighbors. Like the rest of us on the dirt road, they had several Labrador retrievers and two horses. I feared passing their house on my daily stroll to our mailbox because their rabid dog used to attack me.

Little did I know, however, that two years after facing the horribly mean dog every day, I would come face to face with a smelly, wretched ostrich in their front yard. After looking into the situation, I learned that they had sold their domesticated animals to invest in two ostriches, which, as I remember, were about a thousand dollars each. Apparently, they were looking to develop an ostrich farm.

To this day, I've always considered our "typical" neighbors to be the weirdest couple I have ever met. Who would want to trade in all of those great animals for strange, exotic pets?

Well, apparently, they weren't so extraordinary.

The Addison County Humane Society has found that the exotic pet trade has become a growing problem in this area. Over the years there has been an increase in the sales of exotic pets, the majority of which become too problematic for the owners to take care of. These pets usually end up sick and die, or are pushed out into the wild with little chance of survival.

Since last year, the Addison County Humane Society has been trying to educate people about the problems associated with exotic animals and the exotic pet trade. This year, letters and pamphlets have been sent to Middlebury students, as well as all residents of Addison County.

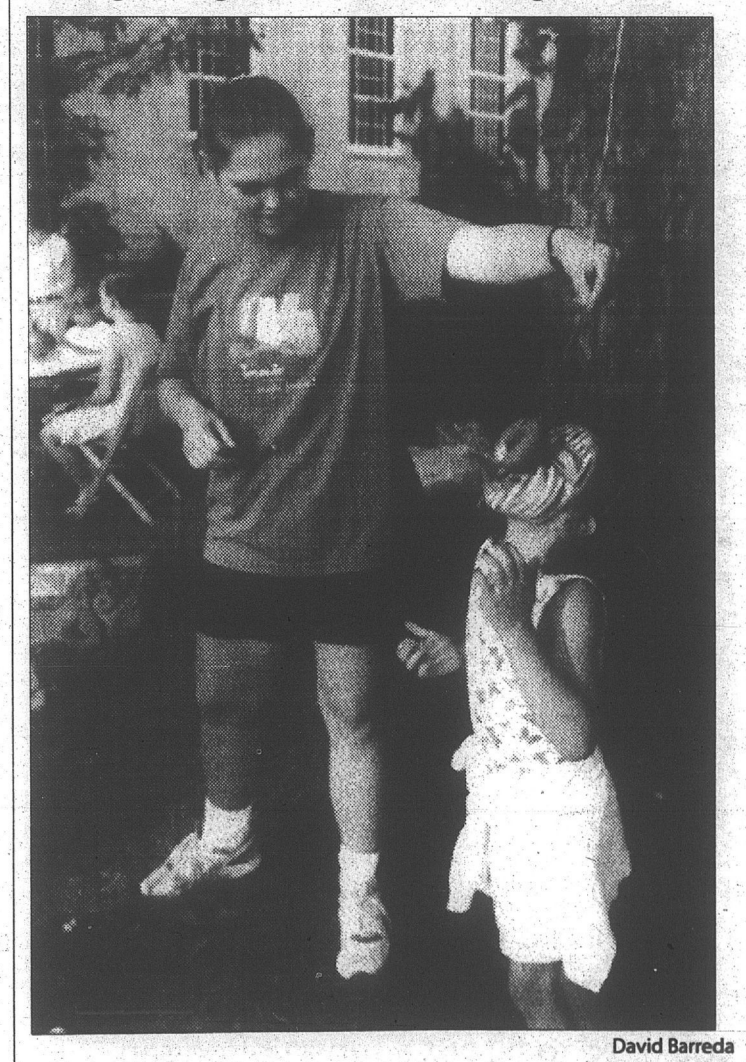
The purchasing of exotic pets here in Addison County, however, is just one part of an international black market dealing with the buying and selling of these animals. It is an industry that has grown over the years and has seen demand rise steadily.

Collectors are the chief buyers and largest bankers of those who deal in the capture and trade of rare animals. Last year between $10 billion and $20 billion in animals were traded illegally around the world. The problem extends further than simply concerns over the health and well-being of these animals as pets. Many of the exotic animals are also endangered species, protected under government laws. It is ironic that the rarer a species, the more valuable it becomes — so valuable, in fact, that sometimes the only way to escape capture is extinction.

It is not often, however, that people in Addison County or other places think about these

(see Exotic, page 13)

Setting her sights on the sweet things



David Barreda

Town residents joined the fall festivities at the college, *on Friday night. Kids participated in games such as this donut eating contest.*

Swisher-McClure '00 shatters record

Sophomore meets challenge of Long Trail in Six Days

By Emily Manning
Features Editor

At this time last year, I spent a good portion of my Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in my First-year seminar; along with fourteen other first-year students, I would examine countless slides of Periklean statues and friezes while listening to Professor Brouke of the art department lecture.

The subject matter was interesting, but I never really got to know anyone in my class because we were all quiet. I remember this one guy who seemed especially reserved. Every once in awhile I'd see him outside of class and he'd kind of just acknowledge me with a shy smile and look down. I never would have expected that this somewhat small and reserved fellow would become the next Long Trail record breaker.

When I was confronted with writing this article and set up an interview with him, I was expecting a tall, brawny guy with a mustache wearing your typical L.L. Bean hiking attire.

As always, I was dead wrong. When Sam walked through my door, I was astounded.

Over the summer, Sam Swisher-McClure '00, the quiet guy in my seminar, shattered the record for hiking the Long Trail by trekking the 271.1 mile route in six days, six hours and 50 minutes, surpassing the previous record by more than two days. Up to 14 months earlier, he had never walked more than 10 miles in a day.

"I knew I had the ability to do it, I just didn't know if I had the will, said Swisher-McClure of his expedition. "Everything was mental. You get tired and then you don't get tired beyond a certain point." With an average of 3.5 hours of sleep a day, Swisher-McClure did not merely suffer from sleep deprivation.

His feat is all the more remarkable because of the hyper-extended tendon between his calf and ankle which slowed him considerably coming down, leaving him at about 80 percent of capacity the last three days.

Towards the very end of the trip his shin ached much less. "I cannot be sure why the pain decreased, but I like to think that the nerves in my shin, after sending the message of pain for such a long time without a reaction from me, gave up and stopped sending me the messages that I was ignoring," Swisher-McClure wrote in his journal on day six.

Along with hiking at all hours of the day, Swisher-McClure also saved time by eating his 7,000 calories a day — power bars, granola bars, pasta, bagels and pizza — and drinking his Gatorade in the same van where he slept at various check points.

He also left all but about 10 lbs. of his gear in the support van, which was driven by his coach Warren Doyle, himself a record-breaking hiker. Doyle meet him two or three times a day as well as at night.

Swisher-McClure became interested in hiking through his friend, Warren Doyle. Doyle, who hiked the Appalachian Trail 10 times, more than anyone else, and once held the Long Trail record himself, served as Swisher-McClure's van driver and coach for the hike. Doyle had become aware of Swisher-McClure's stamina by seeing his times of 4:45 in the mile and 9:45 for two miles and encouraged Swisher-McClure to pursue hiking the Long Trail.

"I like to say Warren was the

(see Long Trail, page 14)

MGLBA seeks inclusive, value-oriented identity as MOQA

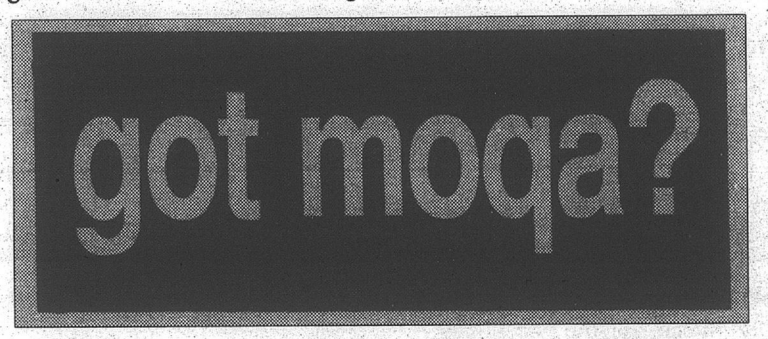
'Middlebury Open Queer Alliance' reflects new values

By Maya Thiagarajan
Features Editor

Last year, transgender performer and author of "Gender Outlaw" Kate Bornstein visited the Middlebury Campus. She talked to students about herself and how she transgressed gender rules. And it struck the "Middlebury Gay Lesbian Bisexual Association (MGLBA)" that their name did not include transgender people in it. They needed a more inclusive name, a name that didn't put their members into separately labelled groups, but instead brought everyone together under one larger label, a name that reflected the values of the group instead of just identifying it in terms of sexual orientation, a name that was catchy and easy to say. They decided on the "Middlebury Open Queer Alliance" or MOQA.

What is MOQA all about? It's an organization that strives to provide a safe and supportive space for the Queer community at Middlebury. It also works to organize events that will create an awareness about homosexuality and bisexuality on campus. This semester, MOQA has a variety of exciting events planned, beginning with a getaway at Breadloaf this weekend, which they call "Sleepless in September." Members of the Vermont College group GLBT (Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender,) will also attend this sleepover. Since one of the major problems that Queer students on campus have is a very limited choice of people whom they can date, this will be a great way for them to meet Queer students from other schools in Vermont.

During "family weekends" MOQA will host workshops for parents of Middlebury students who are gay, helping them accept and discuss the sexual orientation of their son or daughter. This is especially important for MOQA members because one of the most emotional and difficult issues that Queer students at Middlebury face, is that of telling their families about their sexual orientation.



Come October, MOQA plans to become highly visible on campus. October 5 through 12 marks "National Coming Out Week," which will be celebrated with a variety of different events such as a movie, a dance by Peter Schmidt, an open-mike reading at the Gamut room and a major dance party at McCullough.

Since MOQA wants to be viewed more in terms of a value-oriented community and less in terms of a highly political organization that is concerned predominantly with labelling and identifying people in terms of their sexual orientation, I thought it was important to find out what the lives of members of MOQA are like here at Middlebury. There is more to this organization than political jargon and eye-catching posters, there are actual people who need support and understanding just like anyone else.

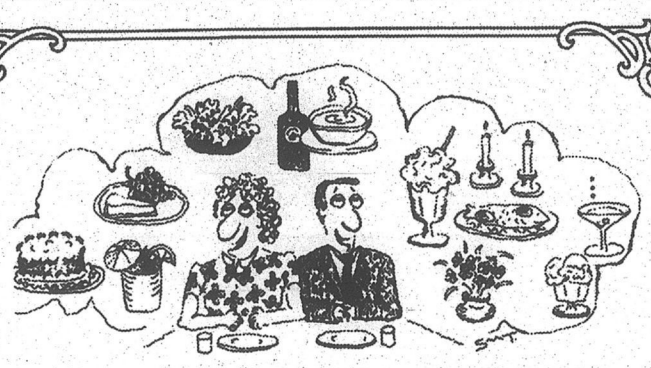
What does it feel like to be Queer at Middlebury? DD Taylor-Garcia'98.5 says, "I think that there are some opportunities for support here at Middlebury; MOQA offers a safe space to Queer students, but the general college campus leaves a lot to be desired for gay people. I would be hesitant to recommend Middlebury to a prospective gay student."

There are many issues a Queer student has to deal with at Middlebury; for instance, Queer students are often faced with either homophobia or heterosexism, which is the idea that many heterosexuals have about homosexuality being an inferior sexual orientation. DD Taylor-Garcia comments on the feeling she had of being "ghettoised" when she came out, because "all of a sudden, all [her] friends were gay" and straight people became much less approachable. She says that "it was hard to get to know a lot of different people because I always felt unsure of how they would react to my being gay."

MOQA members claim that often, if they don't talk about anything related to their "Queerness" they are accepted by most Middlebury students, but as soon as they do start talking about their sexual identity and its implications on their life, their heterosexual peers begin to feel uncomfortable and move away. Many closeted gays on campus are too afraid of this subtle and quiet ostracization to "come out" with their gayness, and sometimes even to attend MOQA meetings.

MOQA members claim that most people at Middlebury "tolerate" them, which, though far-better than Queer-bashing, is still a lot less than being supported and cared for.

They stress their need for support from the general Middlebury student body, even if it is manifest in something as simple as a sign that says "ally" on your door.



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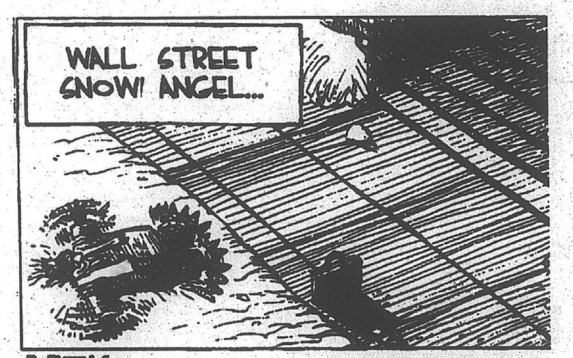
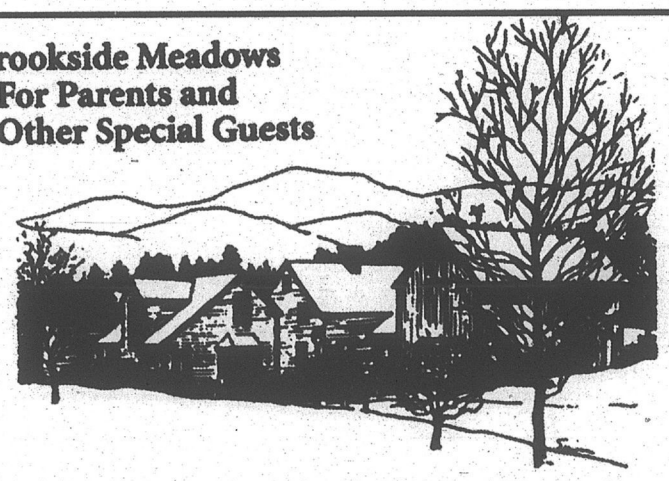


Brookside Meadows For Parents and Other Special Guests



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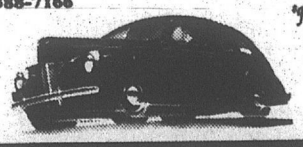

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Frog Hollow craft center offers taste of true Vermont culture

By Kate Barch
Staff Writer

For 26 years, the Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center has been a resource and support network to the state's artists and craftspeople. Middlebury's Frog Hollow, offering a gallery renown locally for its collections of pottery, jewelry and landscape prints, is not all about merchandising, as many Middlebury residents and some college students have discovered.

A variety of classes for those looking to try their hands at wheel-throwing, carving or furniture-finishing are made available to the community at large, though they may be one of the town's best kept secrets. Students have dined at The Storm Cafe and browsed through neighboring shops without an inkling of the resources nearby.

Bill Brooks comes to the Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center as an ardent supporter of the craft world and now as its new executive director. Brooks, who will oversee the Craft Centers' three sites in Manchester, Middlebury, and Burlington, will be putting to use a degree earned after a major change in lifestyle.

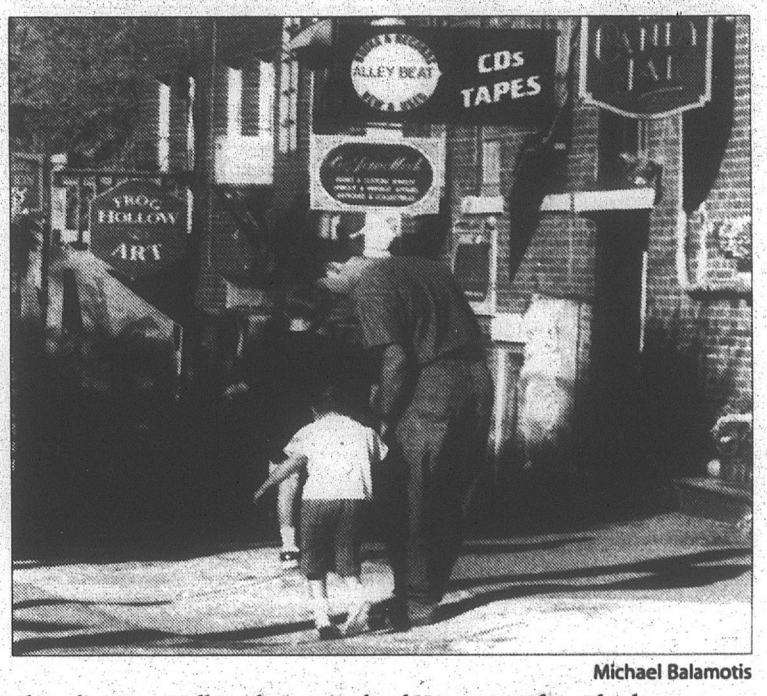
After holding the position of Chief Operational Officer at the Second National Federal Savings Bank in Maryland, Brooks decided that a Masters degree in American Folk Art Studies from NYU might buy him a new future working with the craftspeople he had long admired.

The State Craft Center in Middlebury is not an unfamiliar place for Brooks, who was raised in Washington, D.C. but spent summers at his grandfather's campsite on Lake Champlain. It was then, as a young adult, that he first became a faithful patron of the crafts of Vermont.

Just as Brooks found it necessary to foster his own creativity, he is intent on supporting artistic opportunities in the classroom and hopes that the educational element of the State Craft Center will be enhanced during his time as executive director.

"For years I didn't know that this teaching space existed," said Brooks. "I'm afraid people don't know about the educational mission of Frog Hollow.""Crafts are an exciting part of Vermont culture," said Brooks, who enjoys woodcarving himself. Brooks also takes an interest in the personalities of the craftspeople. his creative coworkers, who display their work at Frog Hollow. He hopes that he too will find time to learn under their guidance.

Along with the resident craftsmen and women who teach and create at the Center, Brooks has high hopes that all members of the community, including Middlebury College students, will participate in the workshops offered and take advantage of the studio space and rich human resources found beneath this Middlebury gallery.



Michael Balamotis

Shops line Frog Hollow, showcasing local Vermont crafts and culture.

David Barreda

This domestic cat probably will not be bought and sold for its exoticism, but such "pet trade" is a growing phenomenon around the Middlebury region.

Exotic pet trade endangers rare species

(continued from page 11)

global ethics and consequences when faced with a cute and cuddly animal in a pet store. Exotic pets have an irresistible draw and the temptation to buy them is often great. We see these animals in pet stores looking so sad and lonely, and visualize how well they would fit in our homes or even dorm rooms. If nothing else, they would certainly make a great conversation piece. The drawbacks to buying an exotic pet, however, are rarely considered at the time of purchase.

Unlike a domesticated dog or cat, their behavior is unpredictable. Many exotic pets display aggressive behavior and follow their own natural instincts. These instincts often lead to dug up rugs or upholstery. Urination is always a problem, especially when it is used to mark territory inside a living room. These animals are not likely able to be housebroken. Messiness and loudness are also problems owners face, as well as the unpleasant odor that many exotic animals give off for territorial and mating purposes.

Although life may become slightly more difficult for the owner of an exotic pet, the pet itself is also prone to its own problems. The actual capture of these animals is often harsh and harmful to the animals themselves as well as their environments.

Last year between $10 billion and $20 billion in animals were traded illegally around the world. The problem extends further than simply concerns over the health and well-being of these animals as pets. Many of the exotic animals are also endangered species, protected under government laws.

Many homes and habitats are destroyed in the process of obtaining these creatures, and many animals die in captivity or transport. It is almost impossible for these animals to adapt to climate and diet changes as well. Living in a cage, or any other type of restricted area, may have an adverse effect on behavior and such restrictions often lead to stress, unhappiness and illness.

Exotic pet illnesses, moreover, are often hard to detect, and even harder to treat. Few veterinarians have the necessary knowledge and tools to work with rare species. Sadly, many of these poor creatures die due to this lack of know-how.

A large percentage of people who purchase exotic pets don't keep them. How do they deal with these innocent animals after they have become too much to care for? Finding a good home is very hard, as not many people are willing to invest the time and money needed for proper care. Humane societies do not have the resources nor the facilities to care for them, and turning them loose in the wild often means a death sentence for the animal.

The Addison County Humane Society is doing its part to help stop the trade of exotic pets and urges everybody to do the same. The next time you're in a pet store considering buying a rare animal, think about where it came from and how it probably got there. Realize you can either perpetuate the exotic pet trade, or you can help stop its existence.

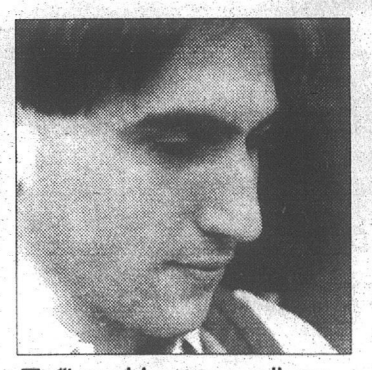
If you are in need of animal companionship, the Shelter is located on Rte. 7 south in Middlebury.

With all of the problems associated with exotic animals, why not just get that dog in the window and save yourself and your new pet a lot of trouble?

CAMPUS VOICES

If you could be President McCardell for a day, what would you do?

■ "Go skinny dipping at the Middlebury Gap."
— Chris Dima '99



■ "I would create a college within a college. Then we could actually educate students in liberal arts"
— Irackly Areshidze '00

■ "Hand out peace pops to all of the world."
— Geo Thompson '98

■ "Spend a Friday night in Battell and see how great it is."
— Brent Sonnek-Schmelz '98

Compiled by Emily Manning

Photos by David Berreda

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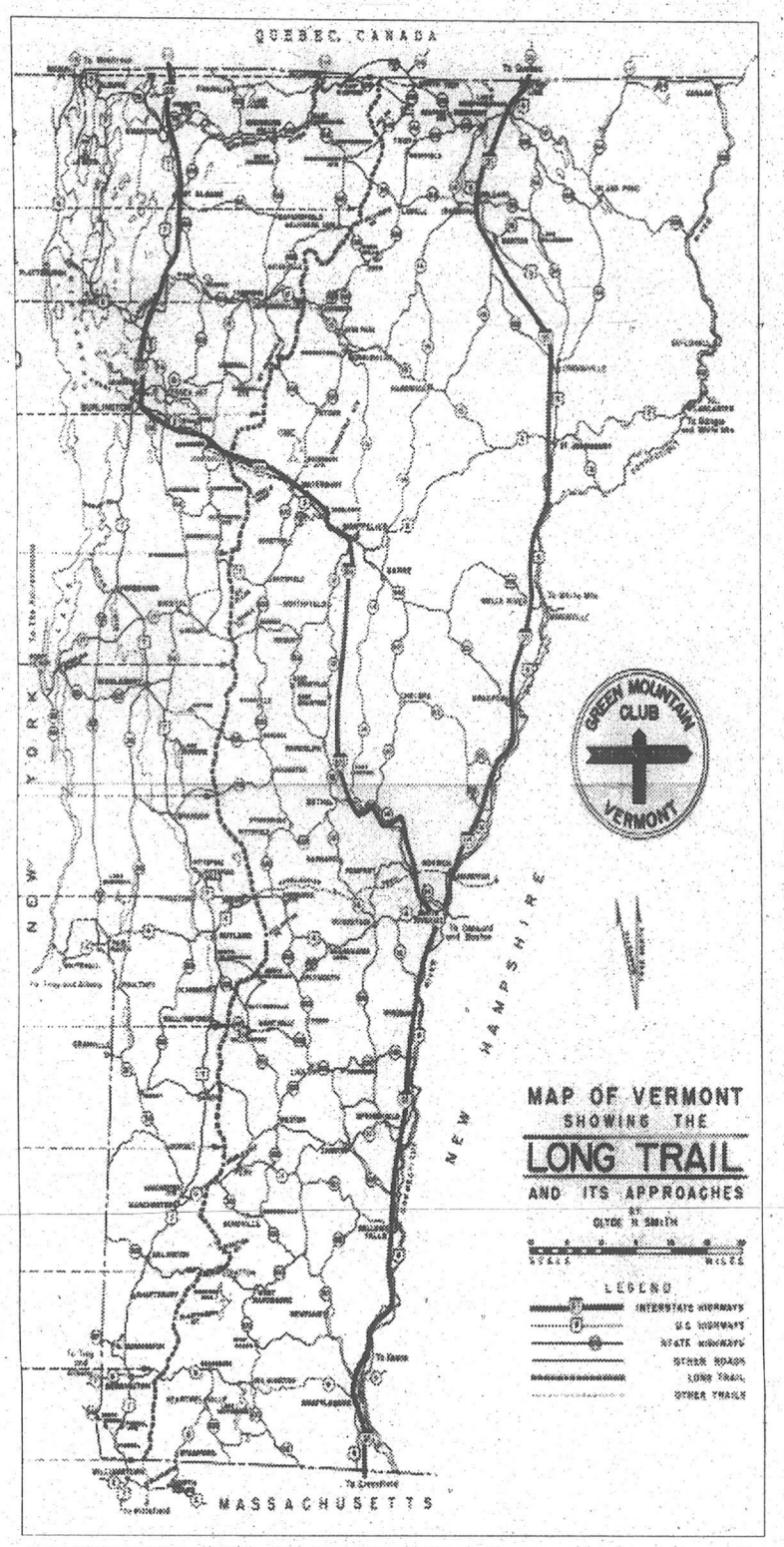


Long Trail record-breaker finds reward

(continued from page 11)

best support money couldn't buy," said Swisher-McClure of his coach.

Prior to Swisher-McClure's record, the previous best-set time was eight days, nine hours and 49 minutes, posted last June by a member of the Colchester High School cross-country team, doing the trail as a part of a team-building exercise.

Prior to that, the U.S. Nordic Ski Team held the record at eight days, 13 hours and 25 minutes, a mark that had lasted since 1978. Doyle set the record at nine days, four hours before that in 1969.

While along on the trails, Swisher-McClure said he "sang songs, thought about my life. I tried not to think about the finish line." In his journal, Swisher-McClure also discusses the breathtaking scenery, beautiful sounds and friendly people he met. Ironically, he ran into people he had met earlier that month while hiking the Appalachian Trail as well as a man who had hiked with his coach Doyle on an expedition. Of course, everyone he met wished him well.

"I felt more in harmony with nature than I have ever felt," he wrote on day two. "I was not trying to conquer mother nature by hiking all these miles. I was trying to become part of her." On day three, he sang "Magic Carpet Ride" by Steppenwolf and the Middlebury College alma mater for a good part of the day. In addition, he sang "Chinacat Sunflower" by Grateful Dead.

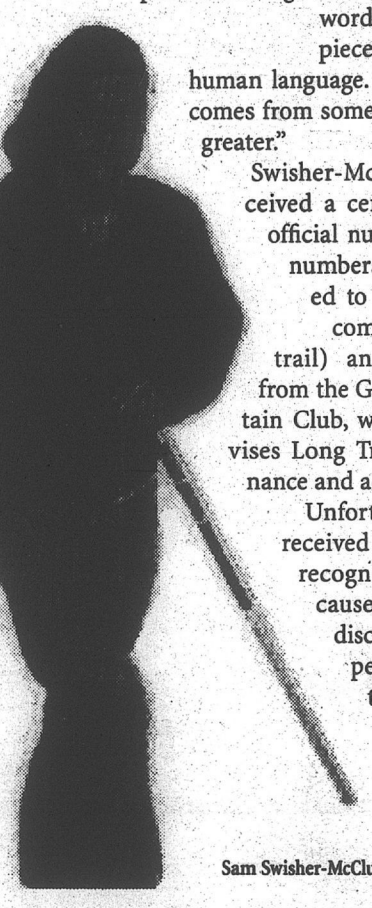
"I remember singing and being so happy that I felt like doing cartwheels," Swisher-McClure wrote in his journal on day four. "That put me in a great mood. The power of music never ceases to amaze me."

At the end of his trip, Swisher-McClure, the "quiet guy" in my seminar, hiked 25 hours straight to break the record.

He arrived at the Canadian border at 6:50 a.m. on Sunday, August 3, after trekking through the slippery, rocky terrain and tremendously thick fog in the early hours of the morning. "I got disoriented three times near the top of Jay Peak because of the tremendously thick fog," said Swisher-McClure. It took him about 20 minutes to find where the trail went after the ski slope.

After finally finishing, Swisher-McClure said he hugged Doyle for a long time and cried.

"It is an indescribable feeling when you finish something like that, and I don't think I can put it into words," Swisher-McClure wrote at the end of his journal. "I don't think even a great poet could put that feeling into words because words are only pieces of the human language. The feeling comes from something much greater."



Sam Swisher-McClure

Record-breaker Swisher-McClure plans to hike the "A.T." this summer.

Swisher-McClure received a certificate, an official number (such numbers are awarded to hikers who complete the trail) and a badge from the Green Mountain Club, which supervises Long Trail maintenance and activities.

Unfortunately, he received no special recognition because the club discourages people from thinking of the Long Trail in terms of speed.

Habitat volunteers lend energy to local families

(continued from page 11)

which students are helping to complete.

The finishing touches are gratifying. Sanding woodwork and applying fresh coats of paint and varnish are the tasks at hand for students who frequent the homestead this month, but they are well aware of the laborious chores that preceded this stage. UVM workers committed large blocks of time throughout the summer and have accepted the challenge of finishing a portion of the basement which will be used as a children's bedroom.

Middlebury's chapter is prepared for an ambitious year after acquiring concrete skills and more sympathetic hearts on a spring break trip to Newport News, Virginia where they helped renovate dilapidated housing for the needy.

However, like most Middlebury clubs, Habitat is missing key players who are studying elsewhere and

Middlebury's chapter is prepared for an ambitious year after acquiring concrete skills and more sympathetic hearts on a spring break trip to Newport News, Virginia.

members are trying to re-establish a rhythm as the Senior-dominated group welcomes back those who were abroad last year. Habitat hopes that many willing hands, and an occasional tradesman, will find their way to this outreach team this fall. General meeting are held over dinner in the Freeman International Center on Thursday nights.

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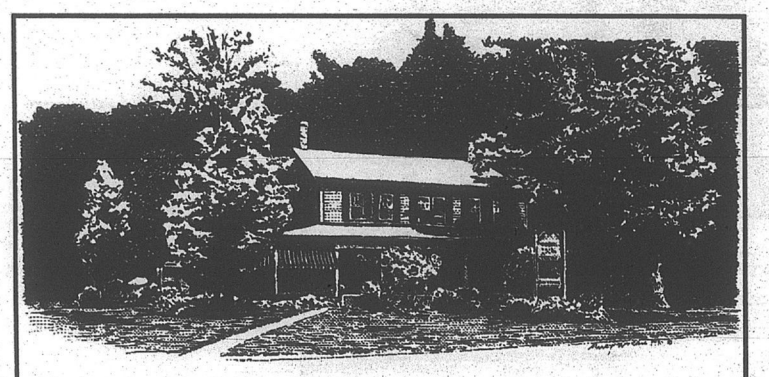

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Mamajamas' CD driven by enthusiasm, energy and verve

By Ethan Marcotte
Staff Writer

It might not have been the most fortuitous decision to plaster the cover of the Mamajamas' new CD with an indiscernible mass of color and shapes; after listening to the

CD Review

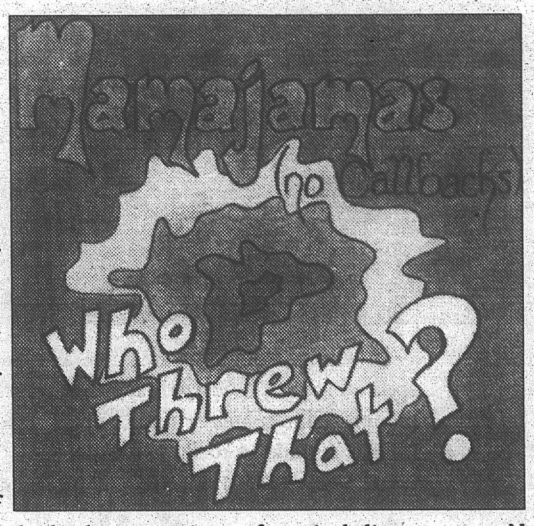
Who Threw That?

The Mamajamas

audibly enthusiastic "Who Threw That?" one cannot help but wonder as to where parts of this album did indeed originate. The disc is obviously filled with no small amount of Mamajama enthusiasm, which is perhaps its most notable—and best—characteristic.

With numbers to rival even the mammoth proportions of the Middlebury College choir ("Who Threw That?" touts thirty-one voices) the Mamajamas' live performances have often been plagued with problems of balance and blending. Under the expertise of resident soundboard guru Mark Christensen, these problems have been partially corrected. But residual problems remain, as the men's sections never quite manage to distinguish themselves behind the overpowering veil of the women's voices.

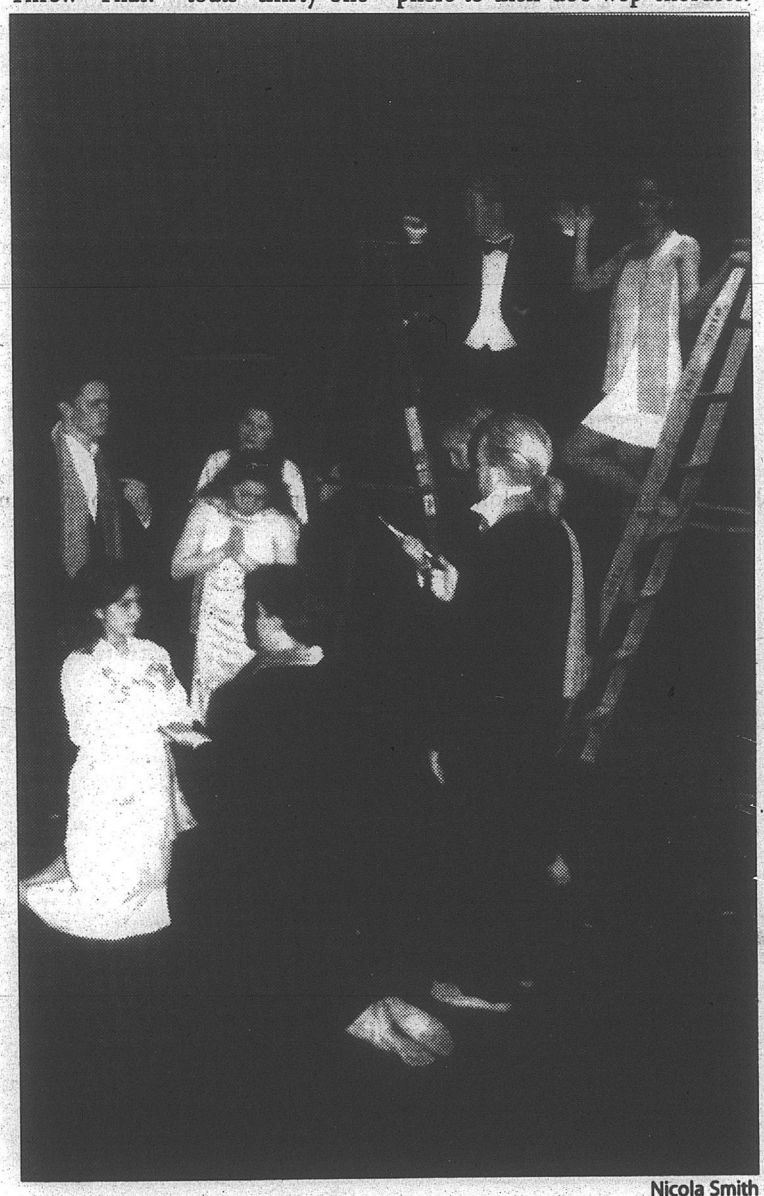
Even Christensen's technical wizardry cannot repair the unforgiving acoustic of the Concert Hall in the Center for the Fine Arts, in which the Mamajamas recorded. The high ceilings and walls of the concert hall have absorbed much of the singers' voices, lending an unnatural, smudged atmosphere to their doo-wop choruses.



Some of the soloists who are unable to project through the acoustic are almost incomprehensible; the lower sections of musical director Amy Wlodarski's '97 own solo during "Total Eclipse of the Heart" are perfect examples of these acoustic casualties.

This is not to say that the album is bereft of musical expression. "MLK" is perhaps the most impressive track on the album, despite the fact that the song's pitch seems to undergo a gradual nose-dive; Brett Zinober's solo manages to lift itself above the choir's downward spiral to deliver a heartfelt and moving work. The group's jazz selections are equally impressive; Wlodarski's accessible arrangements have managed to replicate the big band sound by skillfully combining simple harmonies with the Mamajamas' large dimensions.

On the other side of the coin, a majority of the arrangements on the album are delivered in a fashion that seems too heavy-handed and deliberate. A perfect example of this is "Least Complicated," the plucky Indigo Girls song. Wlodarski's arrangement seems to have been reworked after some sort of funky, weird dance-mix model, which ultimately drowns out Judy Zamore '99 and Melinda Merrill's expressive solo with the men's off-rhythm faux-drum solos. At the end of the album, the listener is ultimately left with the feeling that the Mamajamas would perhaps be best suited to recording more jazz standards like "Moondance" and "Copacabana." The group's size is ideal for jazz choir, and the acoustic in the Concert Hall lends their tone a glossy, chic feel. As it stands now, the Mamajamas' "Who Threw That?" is an unwieldy release, cluttered with no small amount of enthusiasm.



Nicola Smith

Last year's production of "The Two Davids" gave several freshmen and sophomores a rare opportunity to gain on-stage experience.

'Two Davids' reappears, minus one

By Thaya Brook
Arts Editor

Freshmen on stage at Middlebury? It is not the most common sight, due to several factors, among them, freshmen's relative lack of experience, high levels of competition, and, most importantly, spring auditions for fall shows. Unfortunately, this means that many theater students may not get the opportunity to act in a faculty-directed show until relatively late in their Middlebury careers.

Last year guest lecturer and Middlebury alumnus, Carl Forsman, '93, changed a lot of that. "Two Davids", a collection of short plays by playwrights David Mamet and David Auburn, gave several Middlebury freshmen and sophomores an opportunity to put to work some of those concepts on which they had spent so much effort in the classroom.

The idea of a freshman/sophomore show was actually conceived several years ago when Forsman was a student here. However, lack of a director froze the concept in idea form. After directing "The Glass of Water" and "Interview" his first year as guest lecturer, Forsman decided to revive the freshman/sophomore show idea. When he presented it to the department, he says, his colleagues thought it was great and backed up their words with the necessary funding.

Embarking on the production last fall, Forsman says he was a little unsure what it was he was doing. His previous work at Middlebury had been primarily with upperclassmen and before that, he had worked with his fellow graduate students at the University of Minnesota.

He was teaching two sections of Acting I at the same time which, he says, helped to create stronger ties with his cast since about half of the cast was also in one of his classes.

This fall's production will be "One David," Forsman having left Mamet behind this year. Forsman believes the most important work he will do with his cast will be based on finding ways to be honest and to find the truth within the play. He has chosen Auburn plays both years because he sees that playwright's work to be based on clear human relationships in a way that is most helpful to less experienced actors.

Another advantage to performing Auburn's work is that the playwright himself will be putting in appearances at Middlebury over the course of the rehearsal process, allowing the cast, in a sense, to meet their maker, an opportunity few productions have. While working with new material has definite advantages, it also has a few inconveniences. In one of the plays that will be included in "One David" Forsman has been forced to cast without having read the play. He knows only that it requires six actors and is a gender-neutral play about dating.

Forsman sees one of the greatest benefits to having this play as a part of the fall season is simply having another play as a part of the fall season. With seven shows scheduled for the semester, there have been complaints about this term having an excessively large season. "This amount should be normal," says Forsman. "We're certainly capable of this." He highlights the value of theater students watching other theater students as an integral part of their curriculum.

Unlike most faculty productions, "One David" will be performed in the Hepburn Zoo, a space which normally sees only student-directed work.

"I can't wait to work in the Zoo again," gushes Forsman. "The Zoo is the department's secret weapon." He lists its most precious characteristics as being that it is student-run and that it is open for any kind of work that anyone wants to do.

Well-cast 'She's So Lovely' lacks truthfulness and loveliness

By Andrea Yevuta
Staff Writer

Anyone who remembers Robin Wright from one of her earliest roles on the soap opera, "Santa Barbara," to the title role in "The Princess Bride" to the sweet Jenny in "Forrest

Movie Review

She's So Lovely

Nick Cassavetes

Gump" would probably consider her the perfect subject for a film entitled "She's So Lovely." Wright even enjoyed a short career as a model.

Despite Wright's diverse and well-balanced background, her character, Maureen, in "She's So Lovely" is practically impossible to like. Equally as impossible to understand is why two men are fighting over her. Neither her appearance nor her behavior could be described as "lovely."

Maureen is married to Eddie, played by her real life husband Sean Penn, and as the movie opens, Eddie is missing. Apparently this sort of behavior is common for him. The situation is exacerbated by the news that Maureen is pregnant. Both Eddie and Maureen are constantly drinking and Maureen always seems dissatisfied. Regardless of their problems, it is obvious that the two are in love as they seem unable to refrain from physical contact.

The chemistry between Penn and Wright is good and their sincerity is one of the main reasons that their love is believable. When Eddie learns that Maureen was assaulted by an unappealing neighbor (John Gandolfini), he goes crazy and shoots a man. He is committed to an asylum, only to return ten years later to find Maureen remarried to Joey (John Travolta) with three children and living in an upper class neighborhood. What happened in the ten years that passed is not revealed, but perhaps the relevancy of that information was underestimated by the director, Nick Cassavetes.

Casting is certainly not a problem in the film, with Travolta's star qualities well-documented and Penn known as one of the best actors of his generation. Harry Dean Stanton as Shorty and Debi Mazar as Georgie round out the cast. Both Stanton and Mazar are good character actors and John Hughes fans may remember Stanton as Molly Ringwald's father in "Pretty in Pink." Gena Rowlands, Cassavetes' mother whom he directed in last year's "Unhook the Stars," also makes an appearance.

"For all of their talent, energy, and effort, however, the actors cannot inject a sufficient amount of believability into their characters' actions."

For all of their talent, energy, and effort, however, the actors cannot inject a sufficient amount of believability into their characters' actions. Because the characters are not developed in an adequate manner, the choices that they make are often impossible to understand. Particularly difficult is Maureen's behavior as a mother who says that she loves her children "more than anything." If this is true, she might want to think about drinking a little less the next time that she is pregnant. As a person, she is, to say the least, unstable. Of course, a character's behavior must not always necessarily be rational, but it should be based on some previous behavior in order to be believable.

The film's problems are not limited to character development; pace

(see Actors, page 16)

'OK Computer' CD reveals maturity in music and message

By Samuel Folk-Williams
Staff Writer

When Radiohead first appeared to mainstream audiences it was with their dreary, empty, helpless and hopeless 'alternative" rock single "Creep" from their debut Pablo

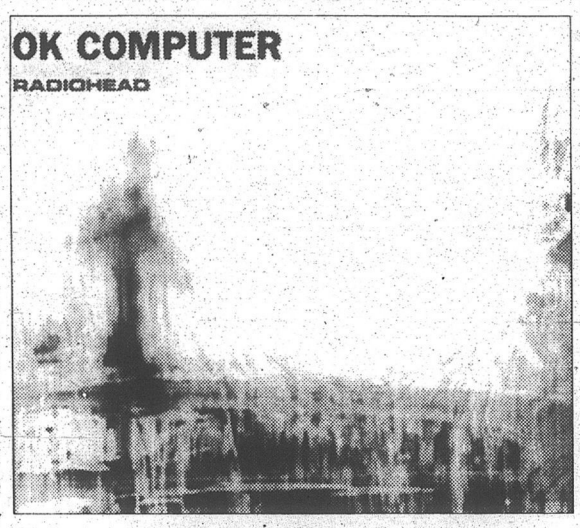
CD Review
OK Computer
Radiohead

Honey. Unfortunately, other than the irresistible whining and heavy open-ended guitar chords of "Creep," the album failed to offer much in terms of original, stimulating new music.

With the release of their second LP, "The Bends", the band made an incredible leap of maturity, continuing their rock-based music with Tom Yorik's much more substantial, less-pretentious, and highly original lyrics and singing style. "High and Dry," the album's first single, couldn't miss with its traditional rock and acoustic guitar combined with delicious vocals and a subtle incorporation of the dreary big guitar styles of Pablo Honey.

Now, with "OK Computer", Tom Yorik's delicate, somewhat beautiful and imaginative singing style is combined with the greatly matured and original music of "The Bends", adding a slew of production effects such as gated and flanged drums, scratching and screechings, ominous guitar and keyboard backdrops, and even working in some tonal melodies inspired (seemingly) by Gregorian chant.

All of this, it seems, would explain the reaction of a clerk at a music store I frequent when she responded to my inquiry about "OK Computer" with an ill-expression and the hesitant phrase, "The new Radiohead is weird. It's weird."



We still have the steady and moving basic guitar strum of "The Bends", only now it's more imbedded in the background with the layers of new sounds along with Yorik's significantly more meaningful lyrics. "OK Computer" is easily one of the most interesting, original and stimulating albums to be released by a main-stream, major label group this year.

The album is largely distant from—and critical of—modern society. Yorik's lyrics are very enigmatic, and perhaps the ambiguity of the musical arrangements serve as a barrier between the band and the average MTV-viewer, whom the album seems to degrade.

In "Karma Police," for instance, a stylized (and synthesized) acoustic piano predominates behind the futuristic sounds as Yorik, in his now usual anti-melodic way, sings "Karma Police, arrest this girl, her Hitler hairdo is making me feel ill... this is what you get when you mess with us."

In "Fitter Happier" the band stabs at the modern notions of a better lifestyle exemplified by the modern yuppie by having a computerized voice spew out phrases such as "More productive, comfortable, not drinking too much, regular exercise at the gym, at ease, eating well, no paranoia." The list finally ends with the statement, "a pig in a cage on antibiotics."

"No Surprises" begins with a cheery, high pitched guitar and bells melody which immediately sounds phony and out of place, Yorik sings "I'll take a quiet life, a handshake and some carbon monoxide. No alarms, no surprises. Silent."

From the first glance at the jumbled cover art to the first single, "Paranoid Android" to a thorough listening of the entire album, "OK Computer" is an extremely bleak, often insulting cut at the modern world of smart technology and moronic people.

Whether this sounds appealing or not, as a work of pop music Radiohead has produced its best, most dynamic, intelligent and creative work yet. With each new album, Radiohead stands on a new edge of creative possibilities. So far it seems as though they can only get better.

Actors fail to save 'She's So Lovely'

(continued from page 15)

is also a significant issue. Much of the first part of the film is dedicated to portraying the relationship of Eddie and Maureen. This portrayal involves the use of the same camera angle for long periods of time and extended shots of nothing. Much of the movie is spent waiting desperately for something, anything, to happen; eventually the audience becomes so impatient that Maureen's assault is less of a shock than a relief that some action finally occurred after so much waiting around. Director Cassavetes is attempting to direct the last screenplay of his late father, John Cassavetes, and the son never seems to make the connections that the father intended.

The movie is not a total loss as Cassavetes does manage to insert humor into some of the film's most dramatic scenes, such as when Travolta's character offers his nine-year old daughter a beer and she proceeds to drink it as if the situation were entirely normal. Meanwhile, Maureen is making a decision about whether she ought to remain with her stable family or to leave with Eddie.

Similar circumstances abound throughout the second half of the movie, but they are not enough to compensate for the film's other inadequacies. Without some credibility of character, it is impossible to determine why anyone would think that "she's so lovely."

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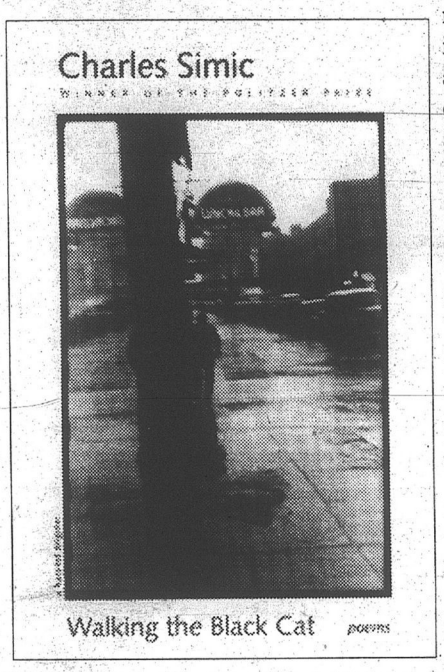
Simic's poems present surreal, contorted view of modern life

By David Keeling
Arts Editor

"It looks so dark the end of the world may be near. / I believe it's going to rain. / The birds in the park are silent. / Nothing is what it seems to be, / Nor are we." The Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Charles Simic intones these haunting observations at the beginning of his poem "Blood Orange," out of his most recent collection of poetry entitled "Walking the Black Cat" (Harcourt Brace & Company, 1996). The book is a portrait of the surreal nature of modern life, and in it Simic presents his vision of a contorted world in which the commonplace and the absurd mingle and interweave—or are one and the same.

Book Review

Walking the Black Cat
Charles Simic



Among recurring images of birds, cats, shadows, cards and cages, Simic gives the reader poems that are ominous, concerned, crazed, tender and always supremely elegant in their own way. His is a world of shadows and caricatures, ghosts and TV, love and the night.

The reality Simic puts forth in his poems is one in which things become unrecognizable in the course of hours or minutes, not years. He writes in "Emily's Theme," "My dear trees, I no longer recognize you / In that wintry light. / You brought me a reminder I can do without: / The world is old, it was always old, / There's nothing new in it this afternoon." Reality becomes an abstraction in the world of his poems; in "My Magician" he writes that he belongs, "Not in this world with its chained bear / And its magic mirror, / Not in that other / Where the white clouds float and sheep graze." For Simic, this sense of a loss of reality is profound; he is caught in a limbo of sorts, between the bizarre and the everyday.

This feeling of being caught in an off-kilter world pervades the poems, and the reader is continually guessing at what is real and what is almost-real; Simic seems to question how we can know the nature of reality in a world beset with information that is processed and manipulated. "Magdalene driving with shades on. / Tires screaming. / A dwarf with a monkey / Stepped out of a cab," he writes in "Hot Night" —in today's reality one must expect the unusual. When, in a time of endless possibilities, will one know when and where the possibilities end?

What Simic feels and expresses is a stop-and-go existence; nothing fades away, rather it suddenly ceases to be. "The leaves made us think / Of a letter trembling in someone's hand. / In fact, many letters in many hands, / And then they no longer did," he writes in "On the Road to Somewhere Else." Happiness stops in the same way, as in his poem, "The Story of Happiness:" "Happiness, unknown woman. / There's a childhood picture / Of the two of us, / Your hands are covering my eyes...." When it ends, happiness simply takes her hands away and lets the sharp light dig in. Thoughts, feelings, and actions all end abruptly, as though those aspects of life were reduced to the mere flick of a channel on television; life clicks up a channel, down a channel, and skips the parts in between.

Many of the poems are deeply troubling; driven by urgency, they interpret the solemn messages of the world and leave the reader feeling both vertiginous and self-conscious. In "Club Midnight" for example, Simic writes, "Is Fu Manchu coming tonight? / Is Miss Emily Dickinson? / Do you happen to have an immortal soul? / Do you have a sneaky suspicion that you have none? / Is that why you throw a white pair of dice, / In the dark, long after the joint closes?"

If the poems are troubling it is because they address issues that are inherently disturbing and uncomfortable for the reader to think about. Nonetheless, that Simic chooses to examine these aspects of modern life only bespeaks his worthiness as a poet; of what use is poetry if it seeks out only the happy parts? Valium-verse does nothing but fixate on the inane. In order to deal with a world of possibilities and absurdities and a reality of fragments, attention must be paid to that which makes us uneasy and anxious. Hemingway once wrote that the world is "worth fighting for". Yes, the world is a beautiful place, and certainly "worth fighting for," but Simic reminds us that a re-examination of our surroundings and our time is paramount to a better understanding of ourselves.

"Nonetheless, that Simic chooses to examine these [unsettling] aspects of modern life only bespeaks his worthiness as a poet; of what use is poetry if it seeks out only the happy parts?"

Arts Smarts

Movies

Friday, September 19

7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
"Ghostbusters." The story of a trio of incompetent "experts" in the paranormal, who set up as ghostbusters after they are canned from their college sinecures, is less cynical of a construction than it sounds. Admission $1
Dana Auditorium

Saturday, September 20

7:30 p.m.
"Helpless." A celebrated young director (Shinji Aoyama) portrays a teen reluctantly drawn into underworld violence. Part of the Tribute to Japanese Film, in conjunction with the exhibition A Hidden Treasure: Japanese Prints from the Carnegie Museum of Art. Note: Mr. Aoyama will appear at Middlebury College as part of a presentation on contemporary Japanese cinema scheduled for Wednesday, September 24.

Performances

Wednesday, September 17

9:30 p.m.
Coffeehouse Concert. Come and enjoy the acoustic music of Christopher Williams while munching on free snacks. A great study break!
McCullough Floor

Thursday, September 18

4:30 p.m.
Rehearsals Rehearsal. Mark Christensen, technical manager at the Center for the Arts, steps out to present the first Rehearsals Rehearsal. Mark will be performing on solo ambient guitar. An opportunity to enter a dialogue with the artist while at the same time indulging in refreshments at Rehearsals Cafe.
Arts Center Lower Lobby

9:00 p.m.
Blues Jam: Gerry Hundt. Everyone is invited to sit in or dance! Sponsored by the Gamut Room.
Gifford Gamut Room

Friday, September 19

4:00 p.m.
Video: Dan Graham's "Two-Way Mirror Cylinder Inside Cube and a Video Salon at the DIA Foundation." Taking viewers on a visit to the 1992 Rooftop Urban Park Project at the DIA Foundation, New York, this video presents one of Graham's most celebrated works, a predecessor of "Two-Way Mirror Hedge Zig-Zag Labyrinth" newly installed on the plaza of the Center for the Arts at Middlebury. Popcorn and drinks served.
Arts Center Lower Lobby.

8:00 p.m.
Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio. The group continues their survey of the piano trios by Schubert, Mendelssohn, and Brahms, which they began last season. Their program for this concert will be Schubert's Trio in B-flat Major, D.28, and Trio in E-flat Major, Opus 148, D.897, "Notturno"; Brahms' Trio in C Major, Opus 87; and Mendelssohn's Trio in C Minor, Opus 66. Sponsored by the Middlebury College Concert Series. Admission: $9 General, $7 Faculty/staff/seniors, $4 Students
Arts Center Concert Hall

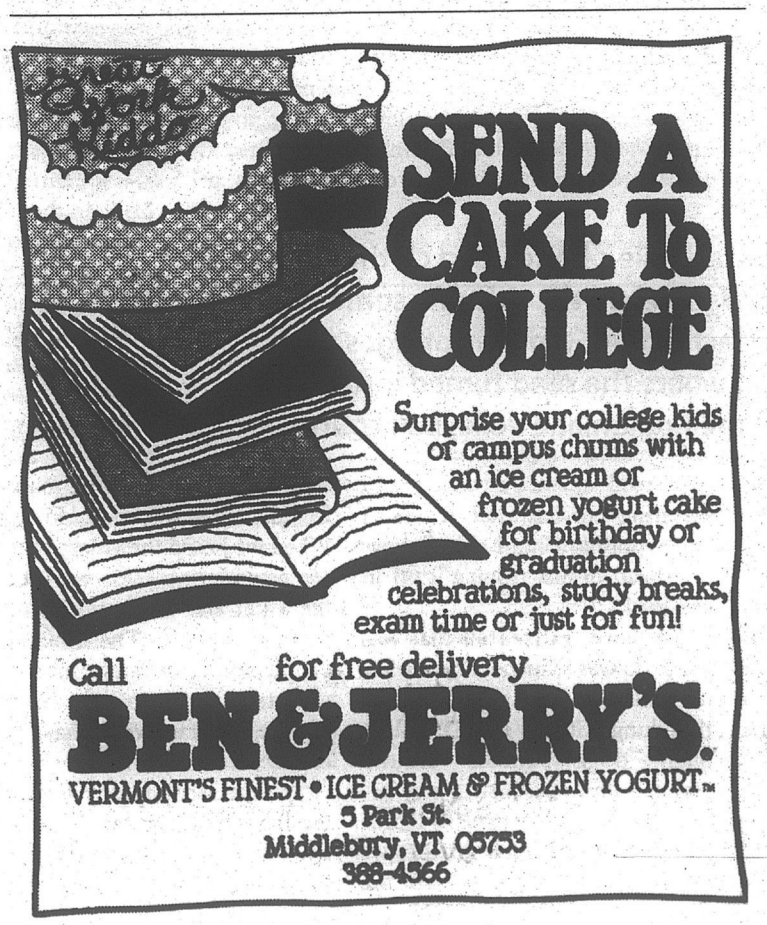
Saturday, September 20

8:00 p.m.
Concert: Mike Burris. Enjoy a relaxing evening with Mike Burris and his unique brand of acoustic folk/rock. Sponsored by Christian Fellowship.
McCullough Floor.

Lectures

Saturday, September 20

Panel Discussion: "Tribute to Japanese Film." A panel of Middlebury College professors, including John Bertolini, Carole Cavanaugh, Stephen Donadio, Leger Grindon, Don Mitchell and David Stahl, will show and discuss favorite scenes from Japanese films.
Dana Auditorium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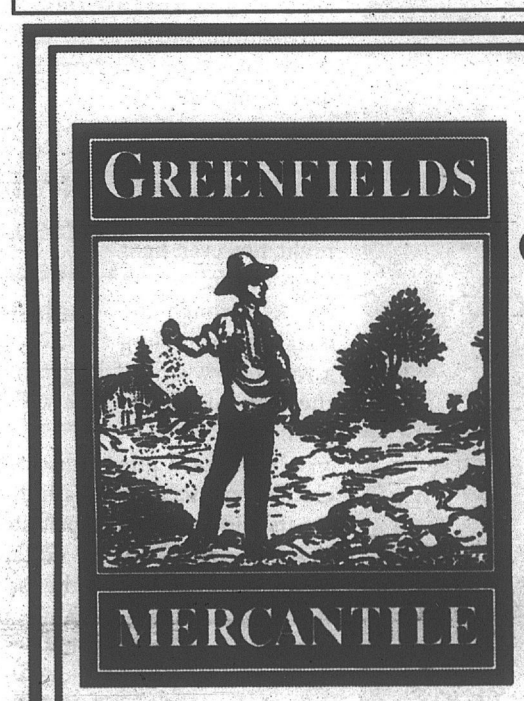


Swimmin' Holes

There are still a few warm days left before the leaves turn and the wind begins to bite with cold. This is a great time to discover the swimmin' holes of Vermont. So get out there and swim, jump, or skinnydip while you still can.

Middlebury Polar Bears brave Vermont's cold winter mornings

Courtesy Photo

Seasoned Polar Bears demonstrate the proper techniques for swimming in thermally challenging conditions.

Amy Olson
Staff Writer

It's 6:45 a.m. on a cold April morning. I'm supposed to be down in front of Adirondack House in 10 minutes with the Mountain Club Suburban ready to hit the road. WHY??? I could just roll over and go back to sleep. In fact, every cell in my body is instructing me to do just that. Why give up sleep to go jump in really cold water? How did I get involved with this crazy Polar Bear group anyway?

Well the honest answer is that it began with a crush. Most men don't know the lengths that women will go to in order to spend a little time with a man they fancy. As it turned out there was more to polar bearing than I had bargained for. It was such a rush! I really liked it. Long after my crush stopped coming to the early morning meetings I was still showing up for every Polar Bear morning. When our leader decided to go abroad I found myself the co-leader of the Polar Bears.

When I wake up on most Polar Bear mornings I would like to just bag the whole thing. It is a battle of brain and body. Fortunately, the shame of not showing up is too much for both the body and the brain to handle.

It's partly peer pressure, partly pride that finally coaxes me out of bed. As I stroll past Proctor watching the newly risen sun and the mist on the Green Mountains I feel very alive. I don't see anyone on my way down to pick up the Suburban. It's just me and my thoughts.

We hit the road at around 7:15. We are all groggy and dazed as we stare out the window at the passing scenery. Our destinations vary; we usually begin the season at Lake Dunmore and then hit the Falls of Lana, Dog Team Tavern water hole, the East Middlebury river bridge and my favorite, Bristol Falls.

You emerge awake, alive, alert and breathless. As you dry off a warm, spacey feeling takes over. It is the beginnings of hypothermia.

At Bristol there is a large ledge just below the water fall for the daring soul to jump off. For those who value their lives there is also a smaller ledge that lands you in the rushing water and carries you down stream to a small bank. You emerge awake, alive, alert and breathless.

As you dry off a warm spacey feeling takes over. It is the beginnings of hypothermia. It feels good to just stand there and take in the feeling. One does not want to lose too much body heat; a warm wool hat and fleece outer wear are necessities.

I am sure if you have heard anything about the Polar Bears it is that we like to get naked. I will admit that there are some who subscribe to the notion that you have to go bare to be a real Polar Bear. I am a Bear that likes her swim suit. Naked or not all are welcome to swim.

Many people say we are crazy, but those are usually people who have not tried polar bearing. Try it just once and judge for yourself. If you're interested, sign-ups are in the mail room on the Mountain Club board. New members are always welcome to join our warm-blooded group. I hope to see you one cold morning this fall for an exhilarating dip into the chilly Vermont waters. There is no better way to start your day.

David Chitayat

Justin Klein '00 sculpts his infamous dive into the Falls of Lana

Night swimming: the all-natural way

By Jenna Sigman
Staff Writer

The moon was broken on the water. I could not understand why the shining silver reflection was visible directly under its celestial mother and then skipped over an entire section of the lake to resume residence along the shoreline. My two friends and I pondered this absurd question for perhaps two minutes while we stood dripping wet, yet still warm from the mid-September chill of Lake Dunmore.

Nighttime provides the perfect cover for skinny-dipping. Darkness wraps her billowy garments around bodies, not to hide, but to mystify. On this particular night, however, light from the full moon breaks through the darkness providing a warm glow which falls gently on the soft bodies of three college girls.

A haphazard pile of discarded clothes remained on a bath towel on the side of a somewhat steep beach ridge. Summer cottages were sleeping where the sand turned into grass, behind the homemade volleyball court.

A haphazard pile of discarded clothes remained on a bath towel on the side of a somewhat steep beach ridge. Summer cottages were sleeping where the sand turned into grass, behind the homemade volleyball court.

They've witnessed more than enough bare white bums darting into the water under the cover of darkness. Our adventure was nothing new.

When we arrived barely 15 minutes ago the lake looked so inviting that we had our clothes off and were wading over the rocky shore before our better sense could convince us that the water was really going to be COLD. Actually the water is really warmer than the air. Lisa stated that fact and we believed the authority of a pro-nighttime-skinny-dipper.

As she was saying it, she dove underwater. Meanwhile, Hannah and I stood on the slimy bottom immersed up to our waists and shivering our butts off. It was as bad as pulling a band-aid off slowly instead of just ripping it off in one yank.

Then we realized all that was left to do was follow. We took a few more hesitant steps before we took the plunge. It was COLD. I furiously doggy-paddled around Hannah and Lisa just to stay remotely warm. They casually treaded water. Within a few minutes we all began to swim toward the deeper water. Lisa joked that the areas of our bodies that hadn't seen sun all summer appeared to be glowing like white turtles .

The lake water felt soft around my body. The experience was much more exhilarating than a daytime swim at a public beach when I would be wearing a bathing-suit to protect from prying eyes. But whose eyes would see us now? We were alone, to an extent.

But no one can really be alone in nature. An entire entourage of eyes was probably watching us frolic in the lake. However, I really did not give a second thought to the crickets, fish, squirrels, trees or moon. They could stare and stare and I wouldn't care; they didn't make us feel the least bit uncomfortable. When we heard the voices of people meandering their way across the water and into our ears that's when fear set in. The thought of people seeing us in our most natural state was an entirely different matter. Then we would have been exposed.

Within seconds our feet were leaving fresh footprints in the sand and the moon shone on the ripples in the water that we'd left behind.

Exploring a jumper's last thoughts

By Lucas Klein
Staff Writer

As you fall, you have time for 40 thoughts to run through your head. The last one is how short the fall was. Not in lack of height: the cliff is more than 20 feet high, high enough for, despite what your physics professor tells you, your legs to fall faster than the rest of you, so your head lags in the air, your neck and spine stretching to compensate.

Before you jump, you wonder whether you should have borrowed your roommate's Tevas, because the rock is slippery from the guy who went before you and you might slip off the cliff instead of jump. And what if your feet slip and your head falls back to smash against the rock. There are no 40 thoughts running in your ears then.

But that doesn't happen. Your calloused feet have enough grip on their own. No matter how many sharp rocks might be waiting at the river-bottom, your feet miss them. All you need to worry about is how you will get the dirt off before you put your shoes and socks back on.

Before you jump, you look around. First to see who's looking, hoping that no one is looking and hoping that everyone is looking. Then, despite the warnings, you look down. You step back, realizing maybe you shouldn't willingly drop yourself 20 feet into cold water.

What if you land wrong? What if you belly-flop? Will you survive? You remember how someone had his arms pop out of his shoulder-sockets because he landed with his arms spread out. Will that happen to you?

You grin, look up, and step back. Then you look behind you. You see the water rushing over the waterfall and think, "Well, the water does it, I can too." But then you look further upriver and see the undertow, built by the water pulling away from the fall, and you think, "But the water doesn't want to fall, either. What does it know that I don't?"

You look up and see the pine trees. You remember that you're in Vermont, outside in a swimming suit. Three months from now you'll be wearing boots and six layers of wool. There won't be moving water anywhere outside. But the pine trees will still be green, even if they're covered in snow.

You look at the cliff you're standing on. What is it, granite? You're not sure, but you know it's harder than the water.

You jump.

The first time you fall, you close your eyes. You see nothing, and when the cold water covers your feet then purges your ears of air, you hear and feel the lower thud of water hitting riverbed instead of the higher pitch of water hitting water, you realize that the fall is over.

Underwater, you open your eyes, push off the bottom and spring to the surface, and let your hair guide rivulets of water down your face. You raise your arms and throw your head back, shouting to the air.

You want everyone to look at you now. You want everyone to have seen how you fell, crouched like a gargoyle falling into the water.

The second time you fall, your eyes are open, shutting tight half a second before impact with the river. The feeling is the same, but different.

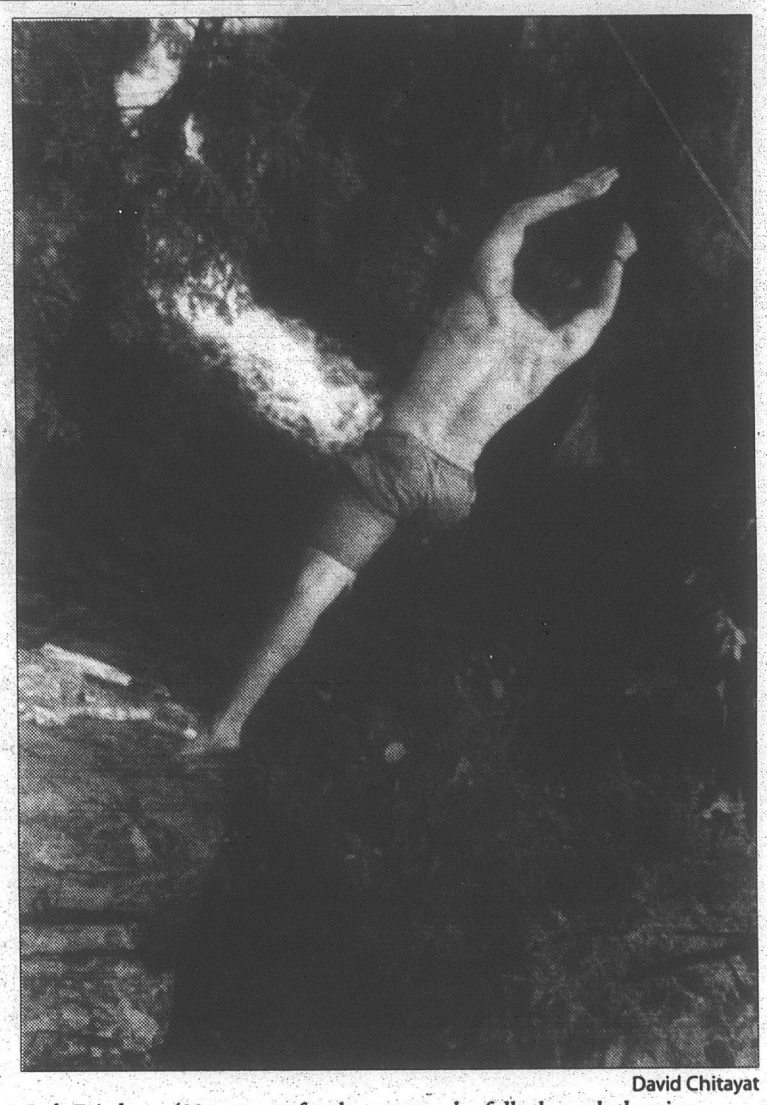
You go back seven times that day trying to find the exact way the last one felt. And they keep getting better.

And the 40 thoughts?

It's different each time, of course, but it generally runs like this:

Oh God oh Jesus I'm jumping I'm falling my neck is pulling my head oh God look at me please-don't look at me I'm flying high I'm jumping I'm falling the water's so far down look at my feet please don't look I shouldn't have done this oh God this is great I love this I'm falling I'm jumping I'm flying I hate this the water's so close will it hurt much will I land right I'm alive I'm going to die I'm dying I'm falling I'm really, jumping I'm flying oh God oh no oh yes I am falling this fall is so long oh God oh God oh God this fall is so short oh

And then the water.



David Chitayat

Josh Friedman '00 prepares for the worst as he falls through the air.

Swimming hole connoisseur directs enthusiasts to finest spots

By Wells Chandler
In-Depth Editor

Cliff jumping: 30 feet of invisible Vermont air separate securely grounded feet from a frigid mountain pool.

The deafening beauty of falling water prevents the mind from composing the usual, muddled, complex thoughts. Mental focus floats away, then the body tenses without prompting and flings the soul through the air and deep into the water, sending ripples of elation throughout the being.

Rushes like these are cheap and run aplenty in Vermont. Prime swimming holes, however, tend to be well kept community secrets, often involving years of investigation for an outsider to uncover...until now.

The Falls of Lana, Silver Lake, Lake Dunmore, Lake Champlain, Texas Falls and Bristol Falls are all beautiful mountainside swimming locations.

To get to Lake Dunmore (15 min.), the Falls of Lana (20 min. with hike), and Silver Lake (35 min. with hike), take Route 7 north, and go about two and seven tenths of a mile farther than the turn-off for the Middlebury Snow Bowl.

Then take a left onto Highway. 53 (there will also be a sign indicating that this is the way to Lake Dunmore). Stay on this road for two and a half miles and you will see Lake Dunmore. Keep going past the giant gray squirrel, and in one or two miles there is a sign for Branbury State Park on the right, which is the public swimming access for Lake Dunmore (admission $2.00).

The lake is large with a moderate temperature (for Vermont) and is lined with summer camps. It's not very exciting, but it is relaxing. One of 'Dunmore's best attractions, for those tired of simply swimming, is the opportunity to rent a sea kayak and tour the lake. The kayaks are rented cheaply..

Just after the sign for Branbury State Park there will be a sign and a parking area on the left for the Falls of Lana and Silver Lake. After a five minute hike up a trail from the lot the falls will be within earshot off to the left.

These falls stretch well over 100 yards, flowing over slimy rocks and tumbling down corrugated cliffs. Jumping is not recommended.. There is a good (but cold) pool or two to swim around in, but the beauty of these falls and the hilly view of the area available from the top make the experience. These falls are best visited between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., when the sun comes through the trees and refracts in the falls' mist.

Silver Lake is on the same trail that you take to get to the Falls of Lana from the parking lot.

Don't take the little side trail to the falls, just follow the main trail for a little less than a mile. There are signs, don't worry. Silver Lake is usually calm and quiet with just a few campers and their dogs. It is big, blue and peaceful. Unlike Lake Dunmore, the whole lake is good for swimming, not just one little roped-off area, and the water is brisk.

The falls originally powered a mill, but a few rusted pieces of metal and a cement obelisk on the shore are all that remain. The sun never really makes it over the tall pines that line the cliff and the ridge line on the opposite shore.

Texas Falls is an amazing and powerful gorge. The roar is deafening. You leave awe-struck by the power of water.

Just take Route 7 south then east on 125 past the Snow Bowl. Look for Texas Falls after a good ten minutes; there will be a sign and then a little road on your left.

The falls are not safe for swimming or jumping, but downstream a bit is a wading spot and a hiking trail.

Bristol Falls are the loudest, most voluminous falls in the Middlebury/Bristol area and is the preferred sight for a student's first Vermont cliff jump. To get there it is a 25 minute drive: take Route 7 north to Highway 17 east.

Stay on 17 through the town of Bristol (go straight). Right after the town you will go over one bridge, then a second, after the second bridge take an immediate right up Lincoln Gap. After 100 yards on the road you should see the falls ahead and to the right. Follow the road for a few hundred yards more and park at a dirt area on the right of a sharp curve.

The falls originally powered a mill, but a few rusted pieces of metal and a cement obelisk on the shore are all that remain. The sun never really makes it over the tall pines that line the cliff and the ridge line on the opposite shore. There are many places to jump into the pool below the falls but the water is shallow in all places.

The water here is cold (though not as cold as Falls of Lana) and the jump is of middling height. The river above and below the falls is great for exploring.

Lake Champlain offers a range of activities. The waterfront in Burlington has long been popular – despite the arctic winds sweeping across the water.

Away from the city, the lake's extended shoreline offers myriad possibilities for swimming and boating, as well as skating in the winter.

Champlain is the the largest body of freshwater in the United States, after the Great Lakes. We hope you can find it yourself.

Thoughts at the Falls...

By Jonathon Reiber
Staff Poet

Moments by the waterside, the northern skies never seemed more near;
Passing thoughts are like the motion of the waters, deep, fluid, and clear.

Twilight of the Harvest, the September Autumn's dream,
Leaves a memory in his heart; the people of the stream.
The Days are fast and numbered, seeds few and far between,
He listens for the sound, and looks for the shimmering gleam.

And "Oh," he says, "She's out there, I can almost touch her face.
I know I'll come to know her, as I calmly know this place."
When he finally meets her, their lives will be so great.
When he finally meets her, their lives will be so great.

Our days are spent in loneliness, there is comfort in the night,
To dream of finding someone is to go in search of light;
To look for that placid ease, that banishes the fright.
But you know from your experience you can not force a day,
You must wait beside the water, and it'll come your way.
As the dawn comes breaking, a voice calls out to stay.

And "Oh" she says, "He's out there, I can almost touch his face.
I know I'll come to know him, as I calmly know this place."
When she finally meets him, their days will be so great.
When she finally meets him, their days will be so great.

The People here are fading, the cold can hardly be beared,
As she stands there thinking, she remembers how they dared;
To live their one and only lives; to dance without a care,
To Cherish every moment, and to value what they've shared.

And so "Yes," I say, "They're out there," as I lightly reach
to touch her face.
"I am glad I came to know them, as I know the waters of this place.
As we stand here by this water, we drift away from fate.
As we stand here by this water, we drift away from fate.

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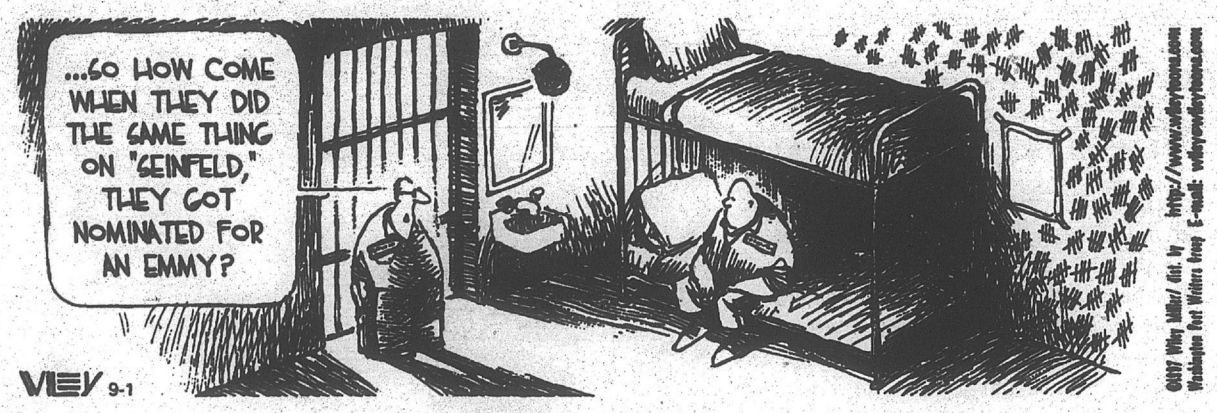
...SO HOW COME WHEN THEY DID THE SAME THING ON "SEINFELD," THEY GOT NOMINATED FOR AN EMMY?
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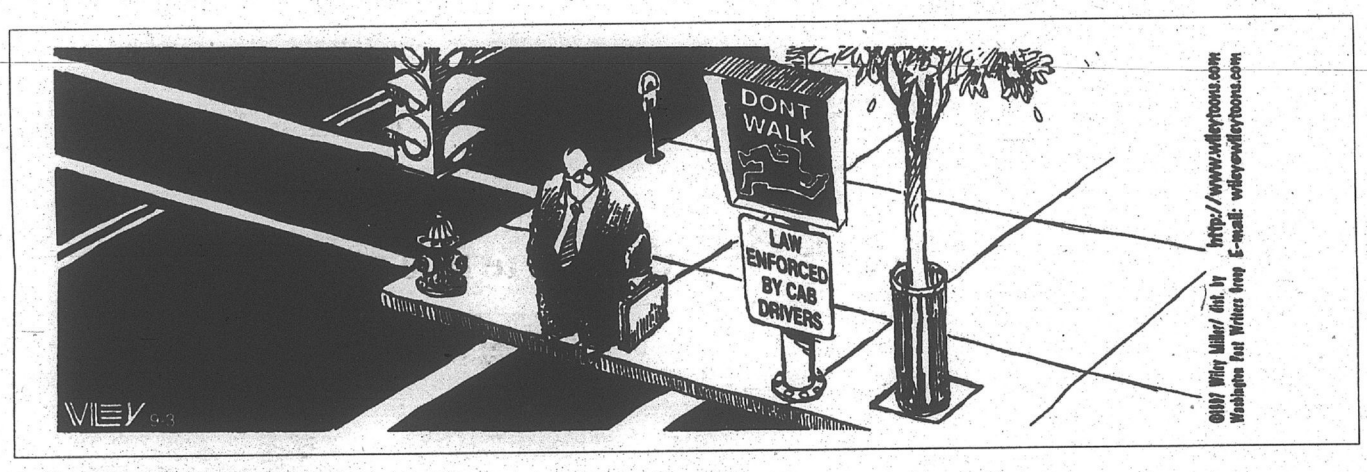

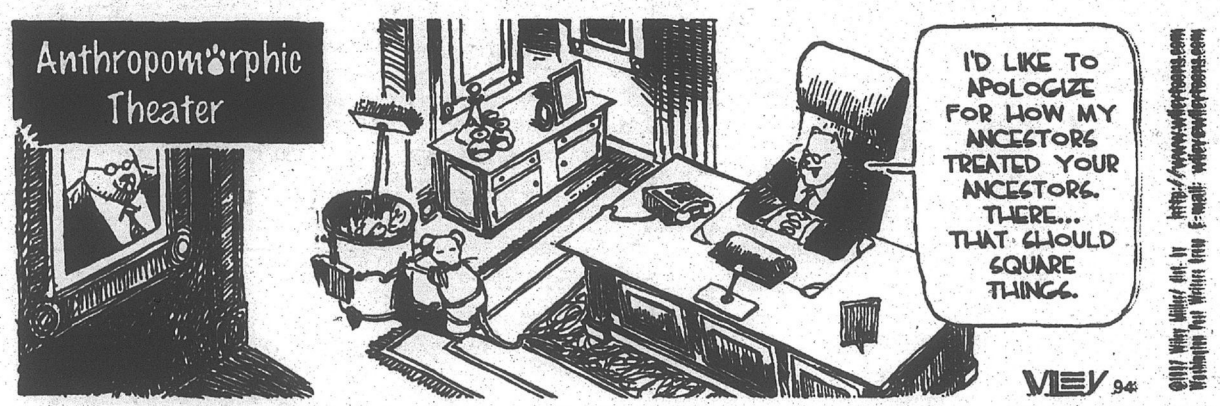
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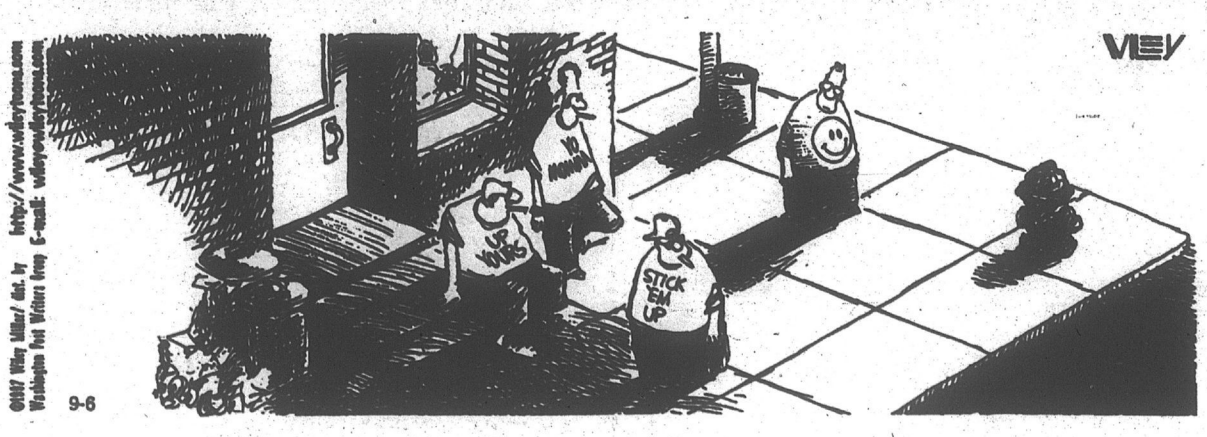

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OVERHEARD

"You did what in Molly?!"
- Ignorant senior man questioning senior woman returning from Mali.

Field hockey drives through Bates

By Cate Devlin
Staff Writer

With a strong slate of returning players, the Middlebury Women's Field Hockey team has its sights set on an exciting season. The fourteen veteran members of the team are joined by junior Elizabeth Huffman and freshman Sarah Theall. Captained by Katie Whittlesey and Randi Borgen, the team has already had an encouraging pre-season.

Field Hockey

Saturday, September 13th

Middlebury	5
Bates	0

For the lady Panthers, pre-season meant a trip to England from August 11 until August 22 to play on the turf against some great players. "The trip really got the team going," says Cate Devlin, "We learned a lot and got really psyched."

The group of 18 players, 2 coaches and 7 fans toured Bath, Portsmouth, Oxford, Cambridge and London, seeing all of the sights and playing a lot of hockey, including matches against men. There was a lot to be learned from the champions of hockey, and the time will not be soon forgotten.

After 11 lovely days, it was time to return home to the States to prepare for the pre-season. The talent which assembled in the field house on August 31st was unreal. The fitness level was extraordinary throughout the grueling pre-season, and the intensity of play was brilliant.

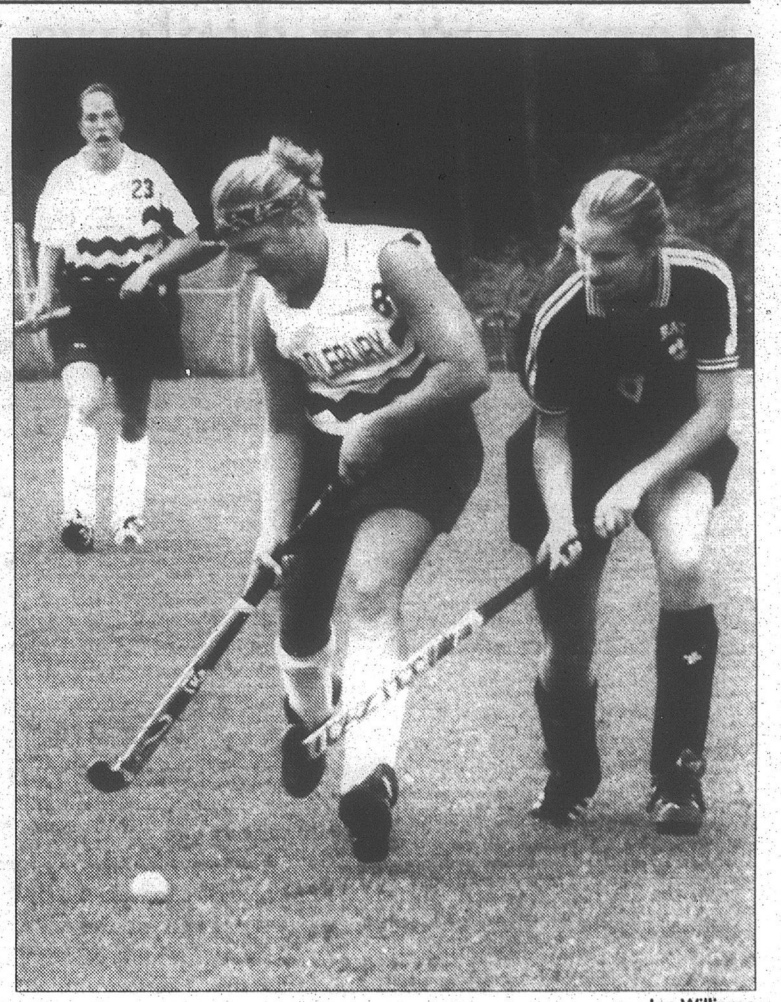
In the end, the team was narrowed down to sixteen of the England players and one freshman. The team then packed its bags again and headed to Camp Merrovista in New Hampshire for two days of bonding. "It was a real team building experience," claimed team captain Randy Borgen.

The camp was a great experience for the lady Panthers, and got everybody psyched for a scrimmage day at M.I.T. where the team faced Tufts, Babson, Plymouth State, and M.I.T. Middlebury "played really well" according to Borgen, and was quite prepared for the season's opener against Bates College.

The lady Panthers went through a week of tough conditioning and attention to detail in preparation for their first true match of the season. It truly paid off, for the game was, as team captain Whitlesey coined it "a blow out."

The game got underway, and after a scoreless twenty minutes, the team realized that enough was enough. Of assists by Nina Johnson and Katie Whittlesey, Heidi Howard pummeled 5 shots past the Bobcats goalie. The final score stood at 5-0, and players and staff alike were ecstatic.

The team is looking forward to a fun season and hopes to see the entire school out to cheer them on to victory. Borgen said she expects the team to do well this season and that not only would they like to again reach the first round of NCAA play, but that they are also "hoping to go beyond."



Jen Williams

Kully Haegerman '99 moves the ball downfield on the way to victory.

Women's soccer shines

(continued from page 24)

dominated the first ten or fifteen minutes of the game, the Panthers hit a small lull in their intensity, but still managed to keep the Bobcats from scoring. In order to pick the Panthers up, junior Amity Wall plugged a hole in the Bates defense with a rocket shot that sailed into the back of the Bobcats net.

Leading by the 1-0 at half-time, Middlebury had little to discuss. The Panthers had no lulls in the second half, and added two more goals, both off the foot of Hedda Bernsten '00. Perhaps the prettiest goal of the day was put away by Bernsten off a Wall pass to Higginbotham, who crossed the ball just yards from the net, where Bernsten got a hold of it.

Not everything has been as perfect as it seems for the Panthers, as several random but dangerous injuries have limited the play of junior returnees Kristine Kraushaar and Chrissy Peterson. Both players have missed playing due to a foot injury and a knee infection.

The return of both players will strengthen a team which is quite solid, and very deep in talent. Almost all varsity players played in the Bates game, as first-years Alyta Corbett, Lisa Engelstein, Megan Olson, and Kendra Slater saw their first varsity college minutes.

The Middlebury victory was satisfying and have players ready to prepare for their next battle, a match-up with number two ranked Bowdoin College.

But, as Bates learned from Middlebury, pre-season rankings mean little to the Panthers.

Volleyball takes 2 out of 3

(continued from page 23)

groove and fought hard to come back and win the match. (15-9, 15-7, 13-15, 6-15, 11-15)

The Panthers were disappointed, but can not wait until they meet Williams again and complete the job they could not finish this weekend. Their final match was against Mt. Holyoke which Middlebury struggled to win in five games. (15-17, 15-11, 11-15, 15-13, 15-13)

Middlebury returned with a second place plaque to add to their young trophy case. Middlebury also gained another NESCAC player of the week in freshmen Leslie Edwards '01. Edwards received this high honor after her first weekend of collegiate volleyball.

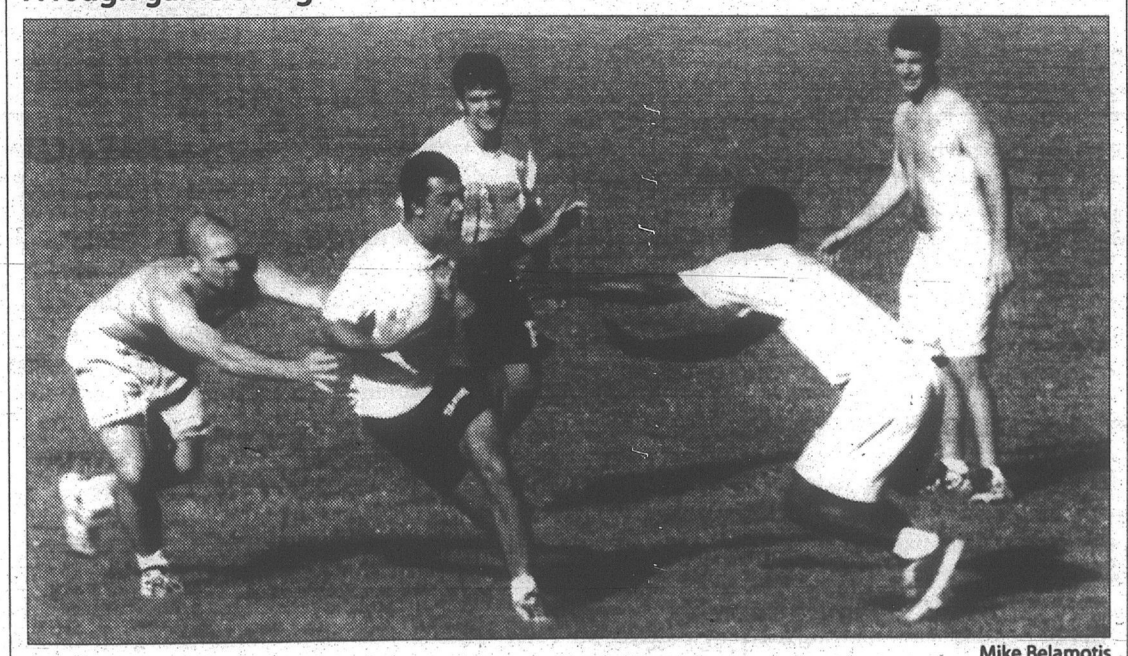
This weekend, she played a total of 22 games in which she amassed 51 kills, 18 blocks, 35 digs, and 4 service aces.

I would like to take this chance to congratulate both Edwards and the rest of my teammates. We have such a strong team that there can be no second string since everyone has the ability to work themselves into a starting position. Keep working hard, because together we can go so much further as a team.

Looking back, this weekend was what the returnees have been preparing for in past seasons and what the rookies are helping to make a reality.

This is a promise and glimpse of what is in store for the next two months, as long as the team continues to push itself a little further each day.

A rough game of tag



Mike Belamotis

Dodging the defenders, *a member of the Middlebury College Rugby Team prepares for the rugby season ahead, while enjoying the fleeting days of summer.*

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Men's soccer declaws hapless Bates Bobcats

By Paul Chusid
Staff Writer

Although the game was not quite what the team had hoped for, the season opener against Bates College was a success. It was the seventh game of the Hedley-Reynolds Cup, named in memory of the progenitor of the soccer programs at both Middlebury and Bates. It was also the sixteenth meeting of the two teams. Middlebury came into the game as the strong favorite with an unbeaten record of 14-0-2. A win was expected, and anything else was not acceptable.

Men's Soccer

Saturday, September 13th

Middlebury	2
Bates	0

Middlebury dominated right from the start, controlling the ball well and creating several early scoring opportunities while denying Bates even a look at the goal. Sergey Cherednichenko '00 nearly scored what would have been a spectacular side volley goal if the Bates keeper had not made an incredible save. Ben Hardy '99 was continually winning the ball deep in Bates' territory and John Ginnacopoulos '00 was exploiting a rather slow Bates midfielder for some good scoring opportunities. Unfortunately, Ginnacopoulos was forced to exit the game due to a severe contusion on his shin. He had received the injury upon drawing the winning penalty kick against Hamilton College a week earlier on a vicious foul.

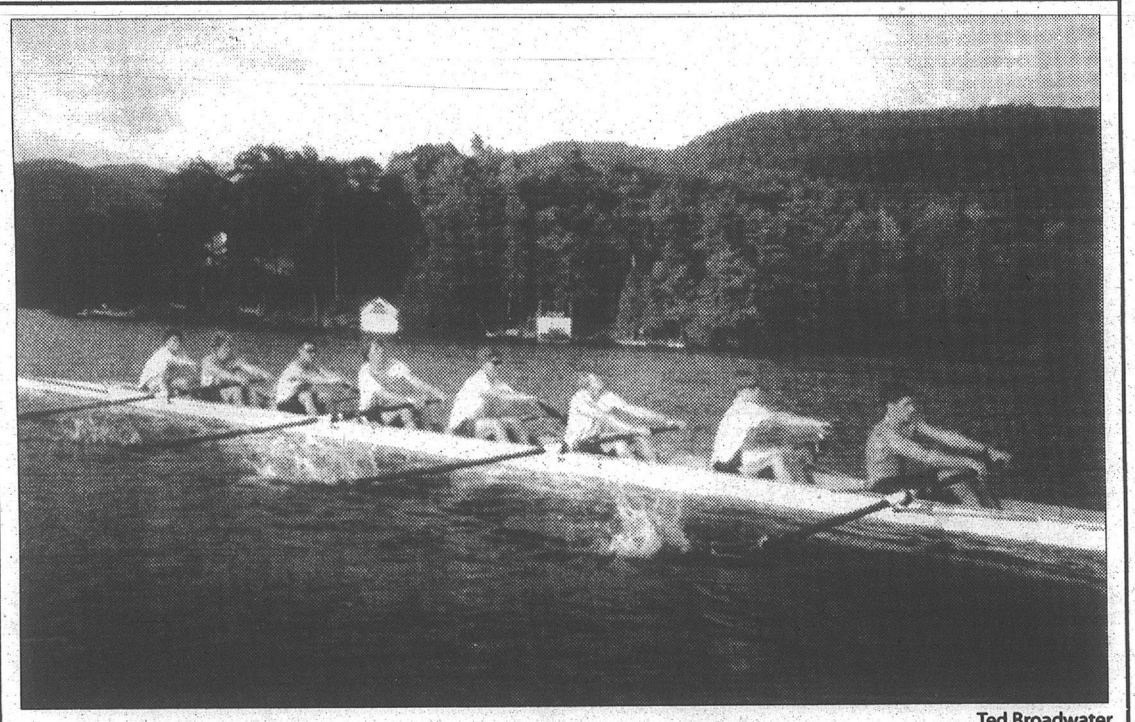
The first goal of the game came when Pete Soden '00 curled a beautiful corner kick in to Chris Wenger '00, who fought his way to the ball and headed it into the back of the net. The second goal of the match came with ten minutes to play when Paul Chusid '00, a substitute, found the end of a long ball sent by Soden into the box. Chusid timed the bounce and met the ball before the keeper could get to it, heading it by him into the goal. Soden later headed an opponent instead of the ball and was rewarded with two gruesome gashes and eight stitches in his scalp, along with a blood drenched jersey. He was seemingly unaffected, and continued playing after a bandage was wrapped around his head.

The second half was not nearly exciting as the first, although there were several excellent scoring opportunities. Jason Golder '98 received a pass deep in Bates' territory and unfortunately found the Bates goalkeeper instead of the back of the net. Also, Cherednichenko had another good side volley that was deflected wide. The most exciting moment came when Jan Groblewski '98 took the field and the crowd went wild. The Middlebury defense remained strong throughout the second half and goalie Scott Wiercinski '99 was not forced to make any saves, getting his first shutout of the season.

Overall, the game was a success, although not very exciting. There were times when the team came together and played some excellent soccer, but as in the pre-season, not as many quality scoring opportunities were produced as could be expected. Also, several key players have yet to turn on the juice, most notably co-captains Mike Russell '98 and Mike Taylor '98. The next test for the team is on Saturday, when they travel to Maine to play Bowdoin College, a team that has been playing impressively so far this season. A physical game is expected, and the team will need to increase its intensity to come out with a win.

Gwen Busby

Paul Chusid '00 heads the ball past the Bates goalie for the second goal in the team's 2-0 win on Saturday.



Ted Broadwater

Men's eight practices in the late afternoon sun on Lake Dunmore in preparation for the upcoming season.

Crew strokes towards fall season regattas

By Jim Thomson
Staff Writer

Every morning a group of brave Middlebury students rise before the rest of campus. As everyone else slowly stirs and moves through their morning routines, these students quietly glide across Lake Dunmore, surrounded by the easy morning light, the calm water, and the precise sound of oars entering the water. These students are the members of the Middlebury Crew Team.

The team has entered a period of incredible growth and development and is currently composed of about thirty men and women. As a result of the team's rapid growth Middlebury will now be able to compete in both four-person and eight-person events. With a very high number of novice rowers returning from last year, a strong fall season is expected.

Last spring Middlebury performed exceptionally well at the New England Championships and sent four boats the Dad Vails Regatta in Philadelphia which is one of the largest spring regattas on the east coast. Middlebury will begin its fall season on September 27 at the Head of the Rideau Regatta in Ottawa. As the season continues, Middlebury will also participate at regattas such as the Head of the Connecticut and the Head of the Charles.

The program's growth has not only been in numbers. In the past the team struggled with old and often inadequate equipment, equipment which has greatly improved in the last few months. Docks were added at the team's practice sight on Lake Dunmore last spring, and this fall saw the purchase of three new shells, 42 new ultra-light hatchet oars, a new coach's launch, and a new trailer for the shells. With more participation and better equipment, the team hopes to improve on a record that is already quite impressive.

The team is hoping for a strong showing of novice coxswains and rowers this fall. The majority of the present team began rowing at Middlebury with no previous experience, and anyone at all interested is encouraged to come row.

Both the varsity and novice programs are in need of coxswains, a position which is an integral part of any good boat, and a great way to spend time outdoors on the water.

Practice schedules alternate weeks of morning practices with weeks of afternoon practices, and spring break is spent practicing in Miami Beach. The fall races are distance pieces between 5000 and 6000 meters, while the spring races are 2000 meter sprints. The team is dedicated to working hard, enjoying the outdoors, and having fun.

Women's tennis splits with Colby and Bates

(continued from page 24)

unforced errors. Says Kytle, "I played consistently and let her be inconsistent."

In other singles action, Jen Cyrkler'99 commenced the weekend in strong fashion, posting a 7-5, 6-1 victory.

Jess Grillo '00 was also victorious, smothering her opponent 6-0, 6-2. Kytle felt that "the team's win was awesome. We all came together and we were really excited to beat a team that we had not beaten in five years."

However, on Saturday afternoon, the team appeared to be both physically and emotionally drained from their previous night's effort. As a result of these factors, perhaps as well as being a bit over-confident, they dropped a difficult match to Bates, 5-4.

On the brighter side, Sophomore Kristin Borden had a tremendous three-set victory, eventually wearing down her adversary, 0-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Cyrkler continued her strong play, showing relentless aggressiveness with her ground strokes in a 6-2, 6-4 win. Jess Grillo also got her second win of the weekend, 6-4, 6-1.

Rounding out the victors on Saturday was the number one doubles tandem of Kytle and Richards, as thier cruised 8-2.

Despite their loss on Saturday, the women are still feeling confident with their season's prospects. Still missing from the lineup are three key team members. Number two singles player Lyndsey Erickson '00 is out of the lineup indefinitely with mono, an understandably an important loss for the Panthers. Jill Patey '98 and Jess Kassis '00 have been battling injury as well, and hope to make a quick return to the singles lineup. To this point, they have only been able to participate in doubles action.

Coach Smith feels that "although we've split one-and-one [in our first weekend], we haven't had our full-strength team out there.

Potentially we have the players there, but it's just a question of whether they're able to play. They've been sitting on the bench for a while, so who knows if they'll be able play as well as they have in the past."

"Everybody on the team has had their highs and their lows already, so now they know what it's like. We're just looking for that in-between state of mind in our future matches—searching for that consistency."

The women will try to recapture some winning magic as they make the always enjoyable journey to Maine next weekend to do battle with rival Bowdoin College. Kytle stated that,

"Everybody on the team has had their highs and their lows already, so now they know what it's like. We're just looking for that in-between state of mind in our future matches—searching for that consistency."

The men have also been diligently practicing on the courts outside of Proctor dining hall, and they are eagerly awaiting the kick-off to their season on September 20 and 21, as they play host to the Middlebury Invitational.

Middlebury sailing left dead in the water at first fall regatta

By Jessica Silverman and Pete Huoppi
Staff Writers

As the saying goes, "You cannot change the wind, but you can always adjust the sails." Middlebury sailors battled torrential rains in an epic early morning journey to Burlington in an attempt to race at the University of Vermont on Sunday. Despite adverse conditions, six teams presented their top sailors for the first regatta of the season in the hopes of receiving an early season ranking.

Among the teams present were UVM, St. Michael's, Norwich Academy, University of Southern Maine, and Maine Maritime Academy. Unfortunately the Middlebury Sailing Team never made it onto the water this past weekend at UVM due to a late cancellation of the regatta.

The rain finally stopped shortly after the team's arrival, but there was not a breath of wind in the trees. In an attempt to stir up a breeze, Jessica "Bessie" Silverman '00 took the traditional approach by tossing coins into Lake Champlain. When this method failed, Pete "The Wind" Steinberg '99 used a more natural method, while Kevin "Gamut Room" Murphy '99 eagerly searched for a human sacrifice to appease the wind gods. After five long hours, the race committee finally canceled the regatta, bringing a tear to the eye of the team's mighty Commodore Chris "Driving Bessie" Morgan '00.

These adventurous souls will face highly ranked teams, such as national champion Tufts University and runner up Boston University.

As Mother Nature normally plays her tricks on unsuspecting sailors, Pete "With the Wind" Huoppi '00 shouted in anger as the car pulled away and the wind rolled in. However all was not lost, Chris "Super Bird" Leatham '98 proposed a team pick-me up at the fine dining establishment of Denny's. Due to Kevin Murphy's intense desire to return for what he thought would be the grand opening of Lower Proctor, Middlebury Sailors were unable to change out of their sailing gear before dining at Denny's. Hopes are not lost and the team will venture to University of New Hampshire for next weekends regatta where they will take on the likes of seven teams competing for the Northern Series title.

The rest of the season is comprised of ten regattas scattered across New England from now until the lakes freeze and the cold winds begin to blow here at Middlebury.

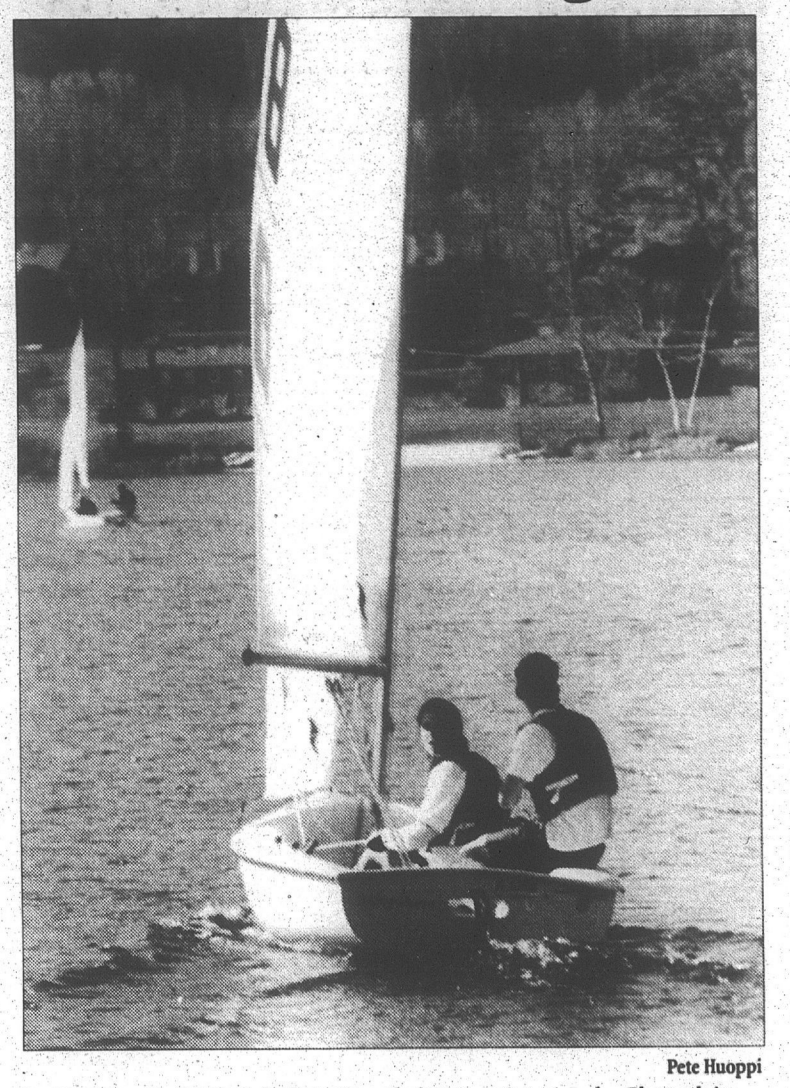
These adventurous souls will face highly ranked teams, such as national champion Tufts University and runner up Boston University. Although this is the second year that the racing team has attended regattas, this season they have been invited to attend several prestigious events.

One of the primary goals of the team has nearly been met with the impending arrival of several practice boats. Therefore, the members are enthusiastic to begin practicing, as well as instructing novice sailors.

The racing team expects to begin a series of informal regattas with local schools such as St. Michael's University and Norwich Academy. This will improve and enhance the team's racing abilities and raise them to a higher level of competition.

Racing is not the only goal of the club. Everyone is invited to weekly excursions to Lake George for a leisure and learning cruise courtesy of Matthew Holt '99.

The team looks to a large group of freshmen to supplement the already strong team. As the team continues to build upon its success they look forward to the adventures ahead.



Pete Huoppi

Jessica Silverman '00 and Chris Morgan '00 practice on Lake Champlain.

Volleyball nets second at Williams tournament

By Christine Knox
Staff Writer

Last season was a breakthrough one for women's volleyball at Middlebury. Their record was 19-10, which included a streak of winning 13 of 15 games in a row. The team won its first tournament at Bates, bringing home their first plaque and their first NESCAC player of the week (Knox '99). A high point of the season was handing Plymouth State College College their first defeat of their season in an exhilarating 5 game match at Middlebury. The team played well at NESCAC's, receiving fifth place and having one team member named All-NESCAC (Knox'99) and another All-Tournament (Carolyn Stewart '97).

Women's Volleyball

Friday, September 12th

Middlebury	3
University of New England	1

Saturday, September 13th

Middlebury	3
Colby College	0

The team's anticipation built quickly during pre-season. Expectations were high once returnees saw how well the rookies fit in with and added to the team. Returnees include CO-captains Catherine Vetch '98 and Erin McManus '99, and Jordan Lungstrum '98, Christine Knox '99, Sarah Graff '99, Shani Herzig '00, and Alison Bowe '00.

Rookies include sophomores Dawn Trowbridge, Heather Langlois, and Anne McDonough. Freshmen rookies are Leslie Edwards, Amy Lowell, and Mia Korot. Sarah Raunecker returns for her third season as the team's head coach, along with a new assistant coach Tanner Blackburn'98.

Middlebury traveled to Williams for a tournament this past weekend. On Friday night, Middlebury opened their season with a five game match against Amherst. Middlebury had never beaten Amherst in previous competition.

The Panthers came out strong with a group of two returnees and four rookies. Middlebury beat Amherst (15-12, 15-12, 4-15, 11-15, 15-10) in a long match in which highlights included the powerful hitting of Edwards '01 and Knox '99. Lungstrum '98 lead the team in assists while Trowbrigdge '00 contributed hitting and defense alike. Later that night, the team beat the University of New England (15-8, 15-5, 12-15, 15-6).

Saturday morning began with a decisive win over Colby College (16-14, 15-9, 15-5). The match of the tournament was against Williams. In the past, Middlebury had only taken a game from Williams second string.

Middlebury came out on fire, explosively winning the first two games which surprised both Williams and Middlebury alike. Middlebury had trouble winning the third game that would secure a victory. Williams found their

(see Volleyball, page 21)

Football sets to kickoff

(continued from page 24)

starters of Adam Pascal '99, Tahg Campbell '98 and Ron Nobile '98.

The second half allowed each team to test out their strategies in various set situations such as the two minute offense, goal-line and special team plays. The Panthers fared especially well on the offensive front in the second half as the inspired play of second and third team players scored touchdowns. Freshman running-back Brian Holmes had a characteristic breakaway run that resulted in a touchdown, as did freshman Mike Vallee. Sophomore receiver Brendan Creedon, this year's football fitness champion, was able to haul in a long pass in the end-zone. Quarterback/receiver Anthony "I want-to-be-Kordell-Stuart" LoSauro '00 passed the pill, scrambled for first downs and grabbed a pass in the end-zone, proving himself to be a true utility player. The team is anxious to see where he will make his next appearance on the football field, perhaps at kicker.

The day was not totally satisfactory for the coaching staff. Repeated errors on special team plays were a big let-down as players and coaches alike know that all of these factors must be executed perfectly in order to win football games. Head coach Mickey Heinecken stressed that the Panthers must not be over-confident and expect the competition to just roll over. With such numbers, it will not be hard to find players to do the job if starters do not perform as they are expected. It must be an all out effort, nothing less will suffice, and nothing else will bring home a victory.

The Panthers travel to Bowdoin College for their season opener.

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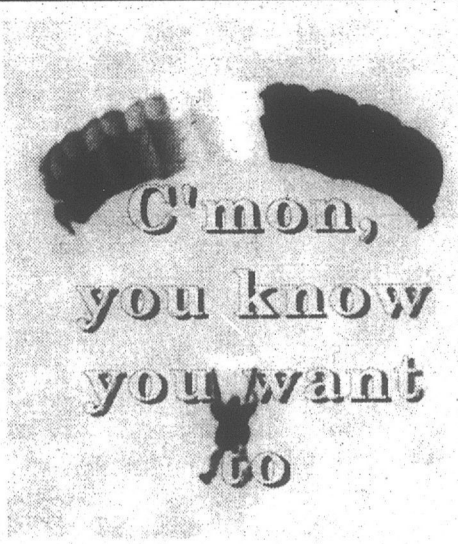

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The Campus Sports

September 17, 1997

Men's Fall Sports

Soccer vs. Bates	2-0
Football at Bowdoin Sept. 20 @1:30	
Tennis-Middlebury Invt'l Sept. 20-21	

Women's Fall Sports

Soccer vs. Bates	3-0
Field Hockey vs Bates	5-0
Tennis vs. Colby	5-4

Women's tennis splits openers against Colby and Bates

By Scott Cacciola
Staff Writer

This past weekend, it was literally a story of night and day for the Middlebury women's tennis team as they duked it out with New England Small Collegiate Athletic Conference (NESCAC) rivals Colby College and Bates College. Confident of a sweep over their Maine opponents, the Middlebury women were forced to be content with a win and a loss in their first weekend of fall competition season.

Women's Tennis

Friday, September 12th

Middlebury	5
Colby	4

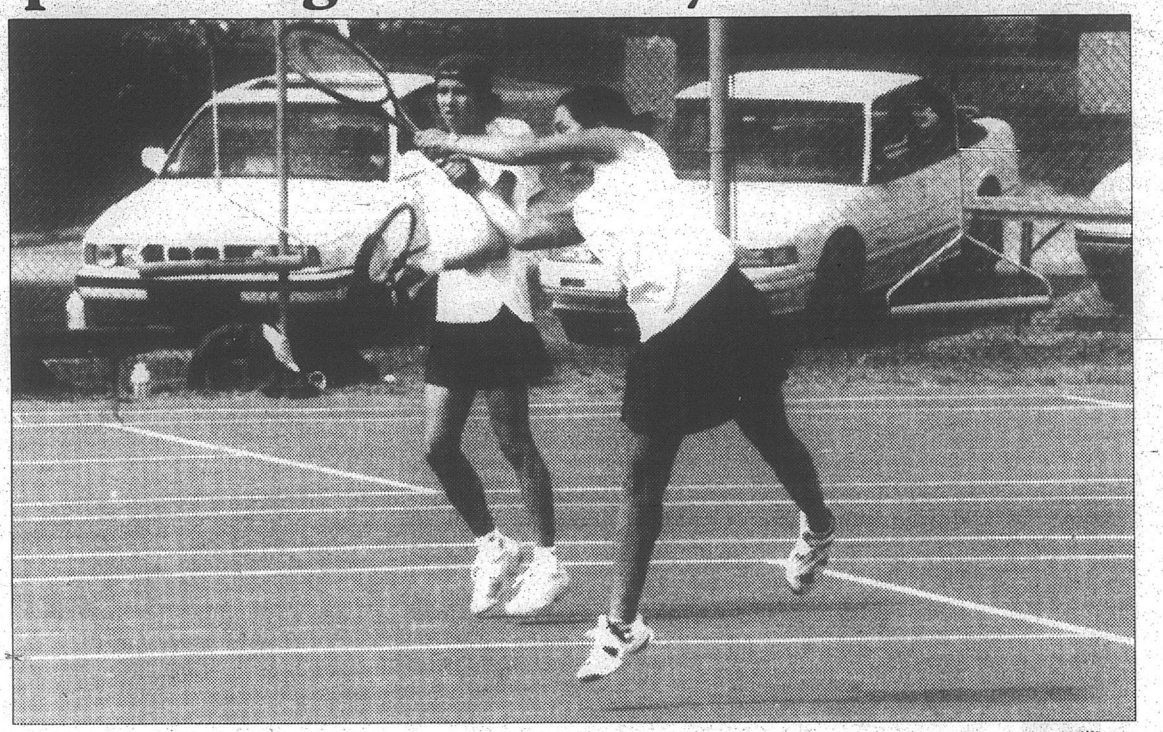
Saturday, September 13th

Middlebury	4
Bates	5

On Friday late afternoon, and into the early evening hours, Middlebury battled the nationally ranked Colby before an enthusiastic and raucous Septemberfest crowd. The Panthers certainly did not disappoint their fans as they narrowly defeated the White Mules, 5-4. In doubles action, the senior duo of Emily Richards '98 and Josie Kytle '98 got Middlebury off to a strong start, as they posted an 8-6 win.

Kytle continued her outstanding play in singles competition, cruising to a 6-0, 6-4 win. Kytle had never beaten this opponent, a rival throughout her four years at Middlebury, until her extremely convincing win on Friday evening. Kytle found that the key to defeating her opponent was to keep the ball deep in the court and let her opponent make numerous

(see Women's tennis, page 22)



Jen Williams

Doubles partners Jess Kassis '00 and Jen Cyrkler '99 warm-up before their match against Colby.

"We are going to win the championship this year" – Hedda Bernsten '00

Jen Williams

Women's soccer pummels number one ranked Bates

The Panthers began their season with an impressive 3-0 win over the top ranked Bates Bobcats making their presence felt throughout NESCAC.

By Stacey Gorski
Staff Writer

For those who belief in preseason polls, pay close attention. Previously number one ranked Bates College women's soccer team rolled into Middlebury last Saturday. That night, they crept back to Bates with their tails dragging on Route 7, the victims of a Panther 3-0 thrashing.

The scoreboard did not even begin to tell the whole story. Bates controlled the ball only for short flashes in an otherwise Middlebury-dominated game. The Middlebury mid-field of Amity Wall '99, Amy Coseo '98, Laurie Higginbotham '97.5, and Heather Crofts '00 completely controlled the middle of the field, and much of the game. However, they would not have been so successful without the pressure supplied by Hedda Bernsten '00 and Kate Stirrat '99, who both played exceptionally well as the strikers. Sarah Gilson '97.5, Molly Holmberg '01, and Amanda Fiedler '01 all supplied great support coming off the bench.

Women's soccer

Saturday, September 13th

Middlebury	3
Bates	0

Naturally, the defense was solid, solidifying the shut-out. The defense was sparked by the flawless play of senior captain Melissa Barker who contained and controlled a Bates All-American mid-fielder. Also contributing to the success of the defense was senior sweeper Lina Chickering.

On the wings, Frances Madsen '99 and Karen Schaper '98 played with tremendous intensity and focus in shutting down the Bates' attack.

The defense was supplemented by great play off of the bench, namely from sophomores Gwendolyn Rogers and Amy Liebowitz. Making her first start in the net, junior Johannah Nikula stopped everything that came to her, for her first career shut-out.

Although Middlebury had

(see Women's soccer, page 21)

Football ends pre-season play drawing even

By Chris Botting
Sports Editor

The football team traveled south this weekend for a scrimmage against the Wesleyan College Cardinals. The two teams met halfway in the neutral territory of Brattleboro, Vermont in what would be the Panther's final preparation for the regular season.

The scrimmage lasted almost four hours and allowed Middlebury to test both offensive and defensive strategies in set situations, as well as all-out play. The first half was scheduled as a regular game situation, and the defense took the field first for the Panthers.

Wesleyan showed an intense drive early, and was able to push the ball down the field into the red zone. The powerful Panther defense prevented the touchdown, and the Cardinals had to settle for a field goal.

Middlebury returned the favor after the ensuing kickoff on their first offensive play. Junior quarterback Brian Coates engineered a touchdown when he scrambled away from the rush, avoiding a couple of would-be sacks, and found Zach Campbell '01, substituting for his injured brother, wide-open thirty yards down field, who after the reception continued almost forty yards down field to score in true Campbell tradition. The extra point was successfully kicked by Scott Dudley '99.

The Panthers were uplifted by this quick, energetic play, and the defense took to the field after only moments of rest. However, the momentum quickly shifted when the Cardinals began another strong drive and found an open receiver down field who ran in for the touchdown. With Wesleyan now leading 10-7, it was time for the defense to step up and make some stops, which they were able to do.

With the defense finally coming into their own, the offense struggled to find a way to score. The Panthers sustained a number of drives, a few almost ending with scores, but the receivers had difficulty pulling passes down. The Panthers had to settle for a field goal by Dudley which left the final score tied at 10-10. The Panthers were dealt a disheartening blow when tri-captain linebacker Steve Monniger went down early in the scrimmage with a knee injury. Monniger is not expected to be back in practice for a few weeks. The Panthers surely felt his absence along with the other injured

(see Football, page 23)